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FBIS 50th Anniversary Note

To Our Consumers:

This year the Foreign Broadcast Information Service observes its 50th anniversary.

The service, first called the Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service, was established in 1941 prior to the U.S. entry into World War II. At the time, a number of U.S. Government officials were concerned about the content of foreign radio broadcasts—a relatively new means of conveying information and propaganda across borders. On their advice, President Franklin D. Roosevelt in late February 1941 allotted money from his emergency fund to institute the recording, translating, transcribing, and analyzing of selected foreign broadcasts for the U.S. Government. During World War II the service demonstrated that monitoring was a fast, economical, and reliable way to follow overseas developments.

Today the Foreign Broadcast Information Service provides its consumers throughout the federal government, according to their diverse official interests, with information from a broad range of foreign public media. FBIS information also is available to readers outside of the government, through the National Technical Information Service. Objectivity, accuracy, and timeliness are our production watchwords.

We members of the current staff of FBIS extend our thanks to consumers for their interest in FBIS products. To past staffers we extend our thanks for helping the service reach this anniversary year. At the same time, we pledge our continued commitment to providing a useful information service.



R. W. Manners
Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service

Sub-Saharan Africa SUPPLEMENT

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GABON

* 1991 Budget: Oil Revenues Up, Taxes Down

91AF0525A Libreville L'UNION in French
15-16 Dec 90 pp 6, 7

[Text] The first Council of Government Ministers formed by Prime Minister Casimir Oye-Mba last 26 November met Friday 14 December 1990 at Renovation Palace under the presidency of chief of state El Hadj Omar Bongo.

Essentially dedicated to examining the fiscal year 1991 budget plan, this meeting also permitted government members to take measures to resolve the national education situation, as well as the construction and reconstruction of our road network. The prime minister, who had to remind the members of the government of the obligations that are henceforth theirs in a newborn democracy, insisted on preserving the state's authority, a tribute in great part to the conduct of those who embody the decisions. In addition, he had to note that an enquiry is being made into the affair of compensation for disaster victims.

In awaiting the results of this, the Council of Ministers calls upon all Gabonese to not jump to hasty conclusions on this matter, since the reasons are not yet understood.

After examining the 1991 budget project presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget, and Participation and the Minister of Planning, Economy, and Territorial Management, the Council of Ministers adopted it. Thus, the budget for 1991 has been fixed for both revenue and expenses at the sum of 490 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs, compared to 400 billion in 1990.

Revenue

Oil revenue, fixed at 257 billion CFA francs, was projected on the basis of increased production over the previous year.

The variable nature of the two factors, price per barrel of oil and rate of exchange of the U.S. dollar, could lead the government to propose a law of corrective finance should the trends observed in the international markets during the first months of 1991 be contrary to expectations.

Regarding other domestic revenues (not including loans), projected at 181 billion CFA francs, the government has confirmed the need to pursue application of the measures decided after the Council of Ministers of 5 June 1990, which primarily involve expanding the tax base, improving collections, and strengthening customs control.

In order to better control the so-called "informal" sector, it will be obligatory for firms benefiting from regulations

provided for in the general state budget to first obtain an annual visa of agreement through the Minister of Finance.

With a view to achieving the objective of economic recovery, the Council of Ministers decided to reduce:

- the obligatory withholding tax to two percent on salaries paid by firms that previously paid four percent and three percent, according to their sector of activity;
- the tax on profits realized in 1991 by nonpetroleum enterprises from 50 percent to 40 percent;
- the rate of tax on inventory from one percent to 0.25 percent.

In addition, to slow the loss of the people's purchasing power, the government has demanded that local collective councils roll back the local tax rate from 8,000 to 2,000 for taxpayers from Libreville and Port-Gentil, and from 6,000 to 2,000 for taxpayers from other localities.

Finally, the fiscal restructuring that will facilitate limiting the state's revenue losses and outflows to improve social justice, has also been decided. Thus, the lease taxation rate has increased from 15 percent to 18.6 percent, and the complementary tax on the payment of salaries greater than 1 million CFA francs increases from 2.5 to 5.5 percent.

Expenses

The Council first examined operating expenses.

The Minister of Finance, Budget, and Participation was first asked to take all necessary measures to realize significant savings on administrative consumption of water, electricity, telephones and transportation, without any compensating subsidies to providers of the services.

The transport of baggage for state officials during their travels will no longer be paid for by the state as of 1 January 1991.

The Council of Ministers, within the framework of the new salary structure established in the integrated salary scale anticipated for the month of January 1991, has decided to place a ceiling on the gross income of members of government at 2 million CFA francs for ministers and 1.5 million CFA francs for secretaries of state.

The Council also confirmed measures to suppress:

- a) salaries on a functional basis with the reversal of former entitlements in their organizational salary scale;
- b) functional assimilations as of 31 December 1990.

With cooperation on the part of all, the savings generated by these salary reductions should pay for salary increases and the structural cost of the new salary scale.

With respect to housing, administrative leases will be eliminated as of 30 September 1991 at Libreville and Port-Gentil. In the interim, the Minister of Finance, the

Minister of Planning, and the Minister of Housing should submit proposals to the government to allow citizens access to private property and grant housing allowances to all officials.

Officials who have acquired a residence ceded by the state under advantageous conditions cannot benefit either from another state residence, or from a housing allowance except in the case of required housing.

The Council then examined investment expenses:

The investment budget has been fixed at 102 billion CFA francs, which is an increase of 13.8 billion over the initial 1990 budget.

This budget, which is still low, nevertheless expresses the concerns of the population during the national political debate.

Emphasis has been placed on improving the standard of living, employment, education, and the effective rebuilding of the road network with a view to economic recovery.

Specifically focussing on the road network, the Council, on the report of the Minister of Equipment and Construction, adopted a plan for rehabilitation and construction that should translate into the realization of short-, medium-, and long-term works.

—In the short term, asphalt highways are needed;

—The medium term involves interdepartmental routes;

—The long term is aimed at the construction of district routes.

With respect to progress in national education, the government has taken the following measures:

1) Agreement on the immediate construction of 50 additional classrooms in the Libreville schools that have space available for them. On this very point, the Minister of Education has already begun negotiating with construction enterprises.

2) The Minister of National Education should immediately acquire the teaching materiel that has been ordered from suppliers in Libreville by the Minister.

3) With regard to the construction of schools, negotiations with the ADB [African Development Bank], of which there is currently a delegation in Libreville, are in progress, with a view to finalizing agreement on the construction of 360 classrooms.

4) The problem of repair works, which have been shown to be necessary for the reinitiation of class, has begun to be resolved by sending teams charged with evaluating the work in order to undertake immediate repairs.

5) Other long-term works involving school construction, repairs and equipment, both in the interior and in

Libreville, will be financed throughout this year on the 1991 budget, for which provisions have already been made.

These substantial efforts lead the government to call upon teachers to review their positions and to immediately return to their classrooms in the interest of the students and the entire nation.

In addition, the government supports the initiative of the private, confessional and convent schools to reopen the classrooms and take responsibility for ensuring the security of people and material and to prevent all acts of misbehavior and obstruction.

* Oye-Mba on Government Legislative Program

91AF0582A Libreville L'UNION in French
19 Dec 90 p 5

[Article by J. Ngom'Ango: "National Assembly. The Prime Minister Presents His Political and Economic Program: Boosting the Economy, Reducing Social Inequalities, and Restructuring the Administration"]

[Text] Yesterday, at the National Assembly, the prime minister and head of the government, Mr. Casimir Oye-Mba presented "the broad lines of the general policy that the government intends to implement in months and years to come." This program of action, he said, is the result "of a meticulous analysis of our country's current situation at all levels, and a thorough consideration of its future in the short, intermediate, and long term." The salient points of this program include concerns of an institutional and administrative nature, concerns of a social nature, and finally concerns about the economy.

As far as institutions are concerned, the government proposes to work out bills designed to strengthen pluralistic democracy. To this end, it will have to endow the country with a fundamental law and repeal the transitional Constitution. This should, on the one hand, give the State "genuine and effective powers precluding impotence and evanescence" and, on the other hand, ensure that "the State authority is judiciously counterbalanced by other powers, so as to avoid arbitrariness, authoritarianism, and dictatorship."

The same provisions will also serve to regulate political parties, as they define procedures for their creation and operation. Other laws will have to be passed to regulate the press, union activities, to control and check immigration, etc. Finally, some institutions will have to be created, such as: the Senate, thus introducing a two-chamber system in our country's political life; the Institutional Council, to replace the present Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court; the High Council for Radio and Television, which will guarantee freedom, equity and right in media communication; and the National Commission on Education, which will be a sort of thinktank to overhaul our school system.

As far as the administration is concerned, its purpose and its operation will have to be entirely reconsidered. This means restructuring the civil service, planning the recruitment of government employees based "solely on the country's needs and only on criteria of quality and competence." Thus, professional competitions will be organized to motivate government employees. And sanctions will be provided to punish dishonest government employees from now on.

The social policy will target several fields. Priority will be given to national education and public health. Actually, according to the prime minister, Gabon lags far behind in the fields of national education and public health, the two pillars of our country. Therefore, in addition to creating the National Commission on Education, the government's action will aim to reassert the value of the teaching profession through fair salaries and other benefits.

We must also tend to Gabonize the teaching profession through a policy of teacher promotion. A program of school building consistent with the country's demographic evolution will be defined periodically at national level.

These measures will also apply to the public health sector: a large program is being considered for the construction of hospitals and clinics and the improvement and equipment of existing ones. In addition, adequate legislation will be adopted concerning the creation and operation of private hospitals.

The new social policy will provide for the technical and financial restructuring of the CNSS [National Social Security Fund] and CNGS [expansion not given], the creation of youth and recreation centers, housing development, etc.

Last, the government will have to choose the economic orientations that will boost the economy and help it to recover. Besides, measures to stimulate the economy, which will be submitted to the Assembly's approval, figure prominently in the 1991 finance bill. However, the budget that will be introduced still bears the burden of the crisis. It amounts to 490 billion [CFA-African Financial Community francs], with a deficit of 176 billion.

Obviously, we will also have to fight vigorously the expansion of the informal sector, which is unfairly competing with the structured sector, and to stop the erosion of the purchasing power of households. It also appears that 1991 and 1992 oil revenues will suffer from the fall of the U.S. dollar exchange rate. And even though the budget horizon is slightly less dark now that a number of oil wells are reaching full production, nevertheless the country's financial situation remains shaky.

Other economic measures aim to stabilize public finances by reducing state expenditures. We must also improve tax revenues and adopt measures to encourage economic activities. Tax and customs services will also

be strengthened. The economic policy will also tend to establish social justice as far as the pay of government employees is concerned.

Investments will be spread over three years. Priority will be given to road maintenance and development, electric power and water supply for all urban centers, and water supply in villages, etc.

The government will also try to reduce unemployment through the creation of jobs and by urging young people to take on small trades; in addition, measures will be adopted to make it easier to create small- and medium-size businesses and industries, etc.

This economic recovery plan, therefore, is geared to the reduction of social inequalities and the restructuring of our administration.

*** Lawmakers Query Premier on Budget, Oil Sale**

91AF0582B Libreville L'UNION in French
19 Dec 90 p 5

[Article by Pierre-Marie Mbongo'o: "Strong Determination to Achieve Recovery"]

[Text] After presenting the government's general policy program, the prime minister spent nearly six solid hours answering the deputies' questions. Since no vote was scheduled after the debate, a simple way was found, consisting of recording all interventions so the prime minister could answer them globally. There were 28 interventions, and Mr. Casimir Oye-Mba grouped them by subject before answering them.

The prime minister was also careful to indicate that his answers were mere outlines; the ministers will fill in the details, each in his field, when they appear before to the National Assembly.

Institutions and Relations Between Government and National Assembly

This subject was mentioned by many deputies, in particular the Honorable Bonjean Ondo of Morena [National Recovery Movement], Angoue Mba of Bucherons, and Moudounga of the PGP [Gabonese Progress Party]. The prime minister answered that his government was committed to the respect of, and balance among the branches of power. It does not wish in any way to encroach on them. The government intends to govern, and the National Assembly must play its part in checking and balancing it. The prime minister will do nothing that could hinder the assembly, which he views as a safeguard and an adviser.

Draft Constitution and National Conference

In this respect, the prime minister answered the concerns of deputies Odo Bonjean, Obiang Ekome (Bucheron), Obame Anguere (Bucheron) and Bouroubou of the PGP. He showed that the National Conference was a milestone in our history. By convening it, President Bongo showed

that he had courage and vision. But the State's progress did not stop with the National Conference. Ideas issued from the conference were enriched and turned into factors of progress. There has been an evolution. On the other hand, the conference resolutions are not a bible. The government may feel that the interest of the State lies elsewhere and ignore the ideas expressed at the conference.

As for the constitution, the prime minister acknowledged that he had presented only the spirit of it. In due time, the text will be submitted to the deputies who can then debate it at length before adopting it.

Budget

This gave rise to a long debate. At least nine deputies spoke on the question. Mr. Oye-Mba explained that the budget was prepared under difficult conditions because of the many events that punctuated the last quarter of this year. Another problem has to do with the economic crisis that still prevails. It imposes constraints. Public finances must be stabilized. This means reaching an agreement with the IMF—a prerequisite because the IMF is the secular arm of the world order according to Western countries. This also means stimulating economic activity, reducing state expenditures, and maximizing state revenues through a more rigorous tax collection system. Hence the series of measures introduced at the last cabinet meeting: abolition of administrative work contracts and function-related salaries. The plethora of government employees, which was the subject of many questions, does not seem to be a major point according to the prime minister, who indicated that there is no ideal number. The main thing is to avoid excesses, remembering that we used to have 45 ministers.

Private-Sector/Public-Sector Ratio

Here, several deputies expressed their concerns about the fate of state-owned companies. The prime minister thinks that the economy is not about men, but about meeting men's needs. This can be done either by the state or by the private sector. Taking Air-Gabon as an example, Mr. Oye-Mba showed that the airline that once was our pride is in a difficult position. Managing it will require draconian measures. But our needs for travel and air transport still exist. And no matter where the managers come from (the government or the private sector), it will take much rigor to put it back on its feet.

Budget Devolution to Local Communities

The head of the government recognized this as a necessity of the times; therefore, he appointed a minister of decentralization who will explore this new field and propose a series of measures.

Roads

This is the top priority. According to the government, this program involves opening new roads and above all repairing highways in the short term, and asphaltting main roads and redrawing the profile of secondary and local roads in the long term. Work financed by the ADB [African Development Bank] has already started. Mr. Oye-Mba also indicated.

Sale of Rabi Kouna

Since this sale has given rise to many rumors, the prime minister insisted on providing a thorough clarification. He explained that there were three operators on site: Shell, Elf, and the State. The two companies just mentioned provided funds for the operation, but not the State. Thus, the State sold its share; following an invitation to bid on this occasion, the U.S. company Amerada was awarded the contract. It has already paid \$150 million. It has already paid one-half, which was used against part of our debt; the rest will come soon. Rabi Kouna, therefore, was not sold at a cut price.

Teachers' Strike

This was the concern of most deputies. Mr. Oye-Mba indicated that teachers' problems were real. But he compared their action to that of a teacher imposing a test on the first day of school. The government insists on implementing the measures announced at the last cabinet meeting. In addition, an ADB bank delegation has come to Libreville to put the last touch to the dossier. The government has demonstrated its determination to do what it can. If the teachers remain on their position in spite of all, they will be accountable to the nation. But negotiations go on.

Administrative Work Contracts and Function-Related Salaries

As for these, Mr. Oye-Mba made it a point to explain why it made sense to abolish them. He called this system a "blatant inequality." First, the contracts: they involved 1,603 agents out of 20,000 civil servants; they amounted to 8 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs, compared with 8 billion in pay for the 19,000 others. Hence, they had to be abolished so the State could save money.

As far as function-related salaries are concerned, the prime minister considered that we do not have several governments. There are only 36 ministers. They alone will receive ministers' salaries, without exceeding published ceilings.

As for individuals with comparable positions who were promoted individually in the past, they will no longer receive function-related salaries. The abolition of these salaries will also cut back State expenditures. The deputies and all the Gabonese will be informed of all details in due time, in the next few days, when the minister of finance and the other ministers concerned come before the National Assembly.

*** White Militant Favors Talks with ANC**

91AF0486B BEELD in Afrikaans 18 Dec 90 p 4

[Report: "Negotiation Struggle Continues—Right Wing Leader"]

[Text] The struggle continues—around the negotiation table. This is the message sent by "Commander" Leonard Veenendaal of the Order of the Boer People (OB) in a letter from prison.

A copy of the letter came into BEELD's possession.

In the letter, Mr. Veenendaal commits the OB to a peaceful solution and the termination of rightist violence. He also requests the release of "our leaders and comrades who are still in prison" to participate in negotiations.

Mr. Veenendaal and three pals, Messrs. Darryl Stopforth, Craig Barker, and Anton Archer, are being detained under several counts under the Domestic Security Act. A request from the Namibian Government for extradition of Messrs. Veenendaal and Stopforth is pending.

Mr. Veenendaal already applied to the State President for protection from persecution. Protection is only granted under the Protection Act in order to promote the negotiation process.

The letter is written in English and signed by "Commander L.M. Veenendaal, Order of the Boer People."

In it, Mr. Veenendaal describes the Order of the Boer People as "the military wing of the rightists" and compares it to the Irish Republican Army and Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation] [MK], the military wing of the ANC [African National Congress].

He says that the OB considers it its right and duty to be prepared to wage war if the interests of the Boer people are threatened.

"We cannot be ignored or wished away! Our achievements since January surpass those of MK and we are more active than the IRA (Sin Fein).

"To ignore us is going to be fatal. No discussion or negotiation can succeed without our being involved."

Mr. Veenendaal, a former swimming-pool supervisor in Hillbrow, and Johannesburg leader of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), says that the OB is sincere in its aspirations. He is anxious to achieve a peaceful solution and to end rightist violence as a concession.

He is committed to bring to the negotiation table the aspirations of the "White man and especially the Boer People."

Because he is committed to the matter and "not narrow-minded," he is willing to talk with the ANC.

If he should find, however, that the Government and the ANC are not sincere in negotiation, "the only choice left to us is to continue the struggle and to plunge the country into civil war and chaos."

Mr. Veenendaal's attorney, Mr. Wim Cornelius, said yesterday he had no knowledge of the letter. He asked for a copy of it in order to verify with Mr. Veenendaal whether he did indeed write it.

*** Union Leaders Examine Plans for 1991**

*** COSATU Vice President**

91AF0597A Johannesburg THE NEW NATION in English 11-17 Jan 91 p 11

[Interview with Cosatu [Congress of South African Trade Unions] vice president Chris Dlamini; date and place not specified; first two paragraphs THE NEW NATION introduction]

[Text] Organised labour in South Africa enters the new year facing vastly different conditions at both a political and economic level when compared to last year.

With slightly less than 12 months since the unbanning of the ANC [African National Congress], SACP [South African Communist Party] and PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], political challenges have shifted from campaigning for the legalisation of these formations to rebuilding them.

At an economic level, recessionary conditions have necessitated that greater emphasis be placed on preserving jobs, fighting retrenchments and unemployment. This will impact on practically every other campaign, including the living wage campaign.

NEW NATION spoke to Cosatu vice president Chris Dlamini and Nactu general secretary Cunningham Ngcukana on their plans for a difficult year ahead.

NEW NATION: What are the most important campaigns Cosatu is likely to embark upon this year?

Chris Dlamini: Many of the campaigns we were locked into last year will continue this year. For example, the anti-LRA [Labor Relations Act] campaign, which we believe was a success, will be extended because we still have to do a lot in terms of putting in place an LRA that is wanted by the working people of this country.

Of course, the Living Wage Campaign [LWC] will continue this year.

Another campaign we will pursue aggressively is around the demand for work for all—especially given the high level of unemployment and the increasing number of retrenchments.

NEW NATION: How do you see the campaign for central bargaining unfolding this year?

Chris Dlamini: Gauging from the the discussions and debates that have been taking place at the level of the executive committee and CEC [Central Executive Committee], it is clear that Cosatu will go into the campaign this year knowing that the next 12 months will be decisive in the battle for centralised bargaining.

NEW NATION: Cosatu's Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers' Union suffered a setback in its battle for central bargaining during the Nampak strike last year. This was partly blamed on Cosatu's failure to mobilise solidarity action. Will this be addressed this year?

Chris Dlamini: The question of solidarity action will certainly be a priority item on the agenda for Cosatu this year. We will certainly be doing research to establish where and why we failed and what we should be doing to avoid similar problems.

NEW NATION: Do you expect any shift in emphasis on areas of organisation?

Chris Dlamini: The executive has already agreed to set up an organising department, which will concentrate on organising the unorganised—mainly the farmworkers, domestic and construction workers. Unlike in previous years, we will concentrate our efforts in the homelands and rural areas.

NEW NATION: You spoke of the "jobs for all" campaign and the struggle against retrenchment. This is likely to be an uphill battle given the fact that we are likely to slip deeper into recession.

Chris Dlamini: We are aware of that. But we believe that the government, together with big business, is responsible for ensuring that people do have jobs.

We do not accept that our people must suffer because of a recession that has been created by those in power.

They will therefore have to sit down with the federation and work out a programme of action that will address the needs of our people.

NEW NATION: Last year, Cosatu as a federation appeared to have adopted a lower profile than in previous years. Was this deliberate or was it a sign of disorganisation within the federation?

Chris Dlamini: I think what happened last year was that, with the announcement on February 2 about the unbanning the ANC and SACP, it became imperative for Cosatu to work towards building structures of these organisations. Much of our leadership was drawn into this task of setting up these structures.

Also the question of violence—this kept Cosatu occupied.

NEW NATION: So, are you saying that the situation will be different this year?

Chris Dlamini: Yes. We are now saying that we appreciate that our members are in the forefront of setting up

structures of the ANC and SACP—but we are also saying that those of our leaders who are involved in these tasks should not do this at the expense of Cosatu.

NEW NATION: It is said that one of the thorny questions facing the federation this year revolves around the alliance with these organisations and how Cosatu relates to it. Do you expect this to dominate many of the federation's debates this year?

Chris Dlamini: We would be expecting many resolutions to be submitted to our congress in July or August, and one of these may be on the alliance.

And it is out of debates and discussions that will follow, that direction will emerge on where we go to in terms of the alliance—it may be sharpened, it may be strengthened, it may even be weakened.

NEW NATION: What specific questions will congress have to debate around the alliance?

Chris Dlamini: It is a little early to say. What I do know, however, is that the question of wearing more than one cap by leadership people is likely to come up at congress.

Also the question of who should represent the federation in the alliance.

NEW NATION: Will the focus during this year's congress differ fundamentally from previous congresses?

Chris Dlamini: No. But one important issue that will come up for discussion is whether Cosatu should be part of the negotiations.

* NACTU General Secretary

91AF0597B Johannesburg THE NEW NATION
in English 11-17 Jan 91 p 11

[Interview with NACTU [National Council of Trade Unions] General Secretary Cunningham Ngcukana]

[Text] NEW NATION: What are the most pressing issues facing Nactu in the coming year?

Cunningham Ngcukana: First we must build a strong and democratic trade union movement which will be a guardian of democracy in a post-apartheid South Africa. The second important issue would be to address workers' most pressing needs such as social security, education and training, health and safety.

Another important thing for the federation is to implement the congress resolutions, in particular, the question of mergers. We are hopeful that, before the end of the year, the process [of mergers of affiliates operating in the same sectors] will be complete.

The other important issue is the question of labour legislation. We have been involved in the LRA [Labor Relations Act] campaign. However, the agreement reached was an interim one...we must ensure that we, as

a trade union movement, accelerate the pace of development within the labour sphere, particularly on the legislative side.

It is necessary for us to take advantage of the political momentum to make gains for workers. That is, to ensure that public sector workers have the same rights as other workers and to push for the rights of farmworkers.

NEW NATION: How does Nactu aim to deal with the political differences that have arisen within the federation?

Cunningham Ngcukana: There are no political divisions that I am aware of. There are differences. But in any trade union federation it is obvious that within the membership there will be political differences. Nactu has reached a level of maturity that has not been surpassed by any trade union federation in that we have been able to address those problems in an open and democratic manner.

Nobody's political point of view in the federation is suppressed, but the principle of democratic centralism is applied. Once a decision is taken by the federation, it is binding.

NEW NATION: Will Nactu be taking part in the National Manpower Commission (NMC) this year?

Cunningham Ngcukana: We have said that we will take part in a restructured NMC. Our view is that the NMC should not be an advisory body. It should be a bargaining forum. Participants should attend with mandates and agreements reached at that level should be legislated.

The NMC should not look only at new labour legislation, but also at broader issues such as worker education and training.

Where we have to put our view across and contribute to the restructuring of the NMC, we would consider attending NMC meetings. And, where it is necessary to put forward our view on a particular issue, like the LRA, we would do so.

NEW NATION: In 1990 Nactu appeared to target independent unions in a bid to draw them into the federation. Will this continue in 1991?

Cunningham Ngcukana: There is a conscious decision of the federation to draw the independent trade unions into Nactu. We are hoping that a minimum of seven independent unions will join us by the end of the year.

NEW NATION: Relations between Cosatu [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and Nactu appeared to deteriorate during 1990. How can relations between the two federations be improved?

Cunningham Ngcukana: I don't think the question is appropriate. The relationship between Cosatu and Nactu is a relationship between two working class federations that come together on strategic issues affecting the

working class. That position has not changed. It is only a perception of some journalists.

Cosatu and Nactu continue to work together on the LRA.

In Tripoli we attended the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity conference as one South African delegation.

We are operating in a society in transition. Obviously various political currents are flowing that have an impact on the trade union movement.

What is important and can unite the two federations is that we hold the interests of the working class as paramount beyond the parochial political positions.

NEW NATION: Does Nactu support the idea of a Workers' Charter and will Nactu take part in the Cosatu-initiated campaign to draw up this charter by July 1991?

Cunningham Ngcukana: Firstly, Nactu has its own process for a Workers' Manifesto which is underway.

We are hoping that during the course of this year we will begin to work together with Cosatu but we have had different processes.

Whether you call it a charter or a manifesto, we have a difference in understanding. As far as we are concerned, a charter is the granting of rights by a sovereign. A manifesto is a public declaration by an organisation or group of organisations. That is a matter of English.

In Nactu we developed a series of seminars beginning in April last year. The first seminars looked at the statutory institutions of the department of manpower. We needed to study this to develop a proper position.

The second approach was to look at the kind of political economy Nactu would like to have. We distributed information and ran nine-day seminars for middle and top level leadership from affiliates on economic policy. We started with defining concepts, then looked at various economic models, the existing South African economy and various options.

We are hoping to have a seminar on the future constitution of the country.

In the discussions with Cosatu, we are looking at the possibility of a Workers' Summit on the charter or manifesto. As far as we are concerned, the charter Cosatu is drawing up would be their own internal document.

The internal processes within each federation will continue. But we are hoping that the parallel processes in the two federations would at some point be distilled and a document involving all workers will be drawn up.

*** 32 Battalion Gets Permanent Housing**

91AF0636A Pretoria PARATUS in Afrikaans
Jan 91 pp 40-41

[Article by Lt. Lientjie Barnard: "Esperanca: 'Place of Hope' for 32 Battalion"]

[Text] Esperanca—which means "hope"—is the new residential area for 32 Battalion in Pomfret. Recently, Esperanca, comprising 600 new houses, was officially opened by the head of the Army, Lt. Gen. Georg Meiring.

"32 Battalion and its soldiers have found a permanent home. It is a place of hope—not hope based on illusions, but hope based on facts. We promised you a place in the RSA [Republic of South Africa]—you are now citizens of the RSA. You are an integral part of the SA [South African] Defense Force [SADF]. Thanks to the Father, who has led us through so many dangers, we have this permanent home. Accept these houses as a sign that we care for our soldiers," Lt. Gen. Meiring said.

"Once you are part of 32 Battalion and the black soldiers, you cannot tear away from them. 32 Battalion is the black soldiers. There is a mystery surrounding 32 Battalion. For us, it is a way of life."

This is what Col. M.B. Delport, commander of 32 Battalion, had to say. The soldiers of 32 Battalion, also known as "The Terrifying Ones," were recruited primarily from the Chipenda faction of the FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] soldiers who came over from Angola at the end of Operation Savannah in 1976. Early in 1989, 32 Battalion moved from Buffalo in South-West Africa/Namibia. They were then settled at Pomfret, an old mining town in the northern Cape Province.

The facilities that Pomfret was able to offer were better than those at Buffalo, but housing was inadequate. Construction on the 800 new houses began in September 1989 and was completed in November 1990. In all, there are now 1,156 houses in Pomfret, and approximately 5,500 inhabitants. The building contract was awarded to Loftly Kontrakteurs, headed by Mr. Johann van der Merwe: "There is sand, sand, and more sand. There is a water shortage, heat, dust storms, the roads are poor... but for us it was a challenge."

The distances to neighboring towns made things worse. Sand was gotten from Bray (70 km away), gravel from Vryburg (220 km away), roofing from Bloemfontein (490 km away), and other necessities from Johannesburg and Pretoria (600-700 km away). Fifty-four km of fencing and 3,200 metric tons of cement were used. The bricks—11.2 million of them—were made in Pomfret. A high-quality hard stone was made from cement and rock that came from the area. All the families can now be housed. At present, there are still people in tents, but they will be moving shortly. The tent settlement that was raised before the houses were built consisted of 760 tents!

Buffalo, where 32 Battalion used to be, was an idyllic place, with traditions and mystery. "We can still practice most of our traditions at Pomfret," says Col. Delport. "You take your traditions with you. It is only the surroundings that are different. Tradition and culture go hand in hand—you have to preserve your own culture. Our Portuguese soldiers must continue to build and establish their culture here."

Pomfret's streets are named after former commanders, RSM's [Regimental Sergeant Majors], and operations important to 32 Battalion. There are now four residential areas in Pomfret, and each of them has its own story:

1. SAVATI: Reference to Operation Savati, the biggest operation, in which 32 Battalion lost the most men in one day.
2. DOS COMBATENTES: "The Fighters." The people who live in this residential area are the unit's fighters.
3. ESPERANCA: "Hope." The name is from a letter, the "Letter of Hope," written by a corporal just before he committed suicide in 1977. In the letter, he wrote that the many changes, the dramatic shifts, had made him depressed: "I declare that this suicide is because of the suffering endured by the troops up to now. However, the rest of my colleagues should continue with the battalion—hoping in the future, I am certain, that the suffering will end sometime..."
4. NOVE DE MARCO: "The Ninth of March." This refers to 9 March 1989, when the first scavenging squad turned up at Pomfret. The training grounds at Buffalo was also called this.

One thinks of Pomfret as an insignificant little dot on the map, but Pomfret has a surprise in store. The asbestos mine dumps have been leveled, grass has been planted on them, and it has been covered with red earth and rocks to keep the asbestos from blowing away. The existing structures of the mining town have been used and adapted to 32 Battalion's needs wherever possible.

Pomfret is the Kempton Park town council's godchild as far as town management is concerned. It is going to help manage Pomfret more effectively, even though it is already impressed by the general services there. The town management is already up and running and is involved with, among other things, sewerage, garbage, road maintenance, fire fighting, upkeep of the base, the clubs's gardens, and RP [expansion not given] services.

The manager of SAWI [expansion not given], Mr. Derick Badenhorst, and his wife Mariet say that SAWI held a furniture show for the Portuguese because they did not know about modern housewares. A house was furnished and household appliances were demonstrated for the women.

There is also a well-equipped base hospital with facilities for an operating room, dentist, delivery room, X-rays, pharmacy, social services, and a health inspector. Between 40 and 60 patients visit the hospital each day,

and even more visit the clinic. One of the doctors says, "We actually handle serious cases, we stabilize them, and take them by air to 1 Military Hospital. We also provide trauma service to people from the surrounding area."

Capt. Regina Korff, much better known as Sister Sakkie, is in charge of the clinic, with a full-time schedule of immunizations, school health programs, family planning, malnutrition clinics, nursing care for the retarded... Sister Sakkie says, "Most of the time, we do educational work where we involve the entire family. We teach the women how to prepare food and spend money properly; not to send the children to school without food; we teach the children to be clean and well-groomed. The black women have a cottage industry where they tailor-make clothes. I am doing these things because this is my life. I have gotten used to the people from having lived here so long."

Who would have guessed that there are three schools in Pomfret? There are two schools for blacks and a primary school for white children, who number 37. The black school has around 1,300 pupils. Until first grade, they are taught in Portuguese, and after that in English, with Portuguese and Afrikaans as secondary subjects. Facilities for providing practical instruction have already been planned.

The schoolchildren are kept busy, even during vacation: "We ourselves must do everything that we want to accomplish here. We get people involved, arrange excursions into the wild, sports, excursions to Kimberley, we take the kids to the veld." There is also a nursery school for preschool children. The Adult Education Center is going very well—32 Battalion now has the second largest adult education center.

According to Col. Delpont, the average Portuguese soldier has 3.7 dependents, which is very good. Other units have up to 10 dependents per head of household.

Leisure time is a problem, because 32 Battalion has an operational duty and is thus constantly on standby. This hits the unmarried junior leaders hardest because they must remain with the unit, since they are on standby. They entertain themselves with videos, television, competitions, and sports. The blacks like playing soccer and volleyball in large groups, and a few play tennis. "There is not a single man in this unit with a negative attitude towards Pomfret, the surroundings—the whole situation," says Col. Delpont. "All the men in the unit are volunteers. They are here because they want to be."

Permanent Force ladies account for approximately 00.4 percent of the unit's strength, counting blacks and whites. As much women's work as possible is provided within the unit. They work at the post office, at SAWI, or at the unit itself. Mrs. Hester Delpont, Col. Delpont's wife, says, "You have to get involved. You can't just sit at home all day. But we like living here." An orientation course is offered for the women. They are informed about the role of the unit, the people, the blacks' culture, they learn some of 32 Battalion's "war songs," and they

learn about camaraderie. They also shoot, go sleep in the veld, and march 5 km "Vasbyt."

Earlier, when 32 Battalion was beginning to settle in at Pomfret, there were reports that the farmers in the surrounding area had a negative attitude towards 32 Battalion, which was coming to live in their region. Col. Delpont says that the farmers did not have a negative attitude. "It was simply a case of people being uninformed. We provide services for each other and support each other. We had to turn away help for the official opening of 32 Battalion—we actually got too many gifts! We invite them to some functions. We are now neighbors—we are here to stay, and they are here to stay."

Col. Delpont says that the name "32 Battalion" gives one the impression that this is just a battalion. (A battalion usually consists of three companies and a support company.) "In fact, we have more than one battalion within 32 Battalion."

When Col. Delpont speaks of his soldiers, it is with pride: "Our soldiers are completely fair and neutral when acting in situations of unrest. They are wonderful soldiers. Reporting on 32 Battalion's involvement in areas of unrest was initially very negative. But that has changed—we have received very positive reports from leftist journalists."

* Day of Covenant Observation Sparks Debate

91AF0486C BEELD in Afrikaans 17 Dec 90 pp 1, 5

[Report: "Eugene Terre Blanche's abusive language does not fit spirit of Day of the Covenant"]

[Text] Abusive language with violent content, such as the alleged remarks of Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) leader Mr. Eugene Terre Blanche, against the assessor of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church, the Reverend Russel Botman, and threats that he will feather-and-tar him, are hard to reconcile with the spirit of humility and gratitude which characterizes the Day of the Covenant.

Thus spoke Drs. Pieter Bingle, minister of the Reformed parish of Cape Town.

He was asked for commentary after the Reverend Botman, who participated together with him in a South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) TV program about the Day of the Covenant on Wednesday evening, according to a report in Rapport yesterday, was harshly attacked by Mr. Terre Blanche at a Day of the Covenant rally in Middelburg, Transvaal.

The Reverend Botman said in the TV program that the Day of the Covenant can no longer be a national, public holiday in a new South Africa. That day does have its place in Afrikaner history, but whether it is of national significance is questionable.

Drs. Bingle said in the same program that people in a multicultural country will have to honor each other's special days. There is room for everyone.

According to Rapport, Mr. Terre Blanche threatened to "personally come and give hell" to the Reverend Botman by "tarring-and-feathering" him if he wants to have the Day of the Covenant eliminated.

Drs. Bingle said in reaction that in a multicultural society there must be equal adjudication among people, also with respect to the special days which different groups want to be commemorated. The question is whether such days can weather the test of justice and truth.

The Day of the Covenant does not revolve around a struggle between Black and White. That was a struggle between Christian spiritual values on the one hand, and tyranny, injustice, murder, and robbery of a Dingaan [Zulu Chief in 1638] on the other hand. It was for those Christian spiritual values that the Boers, accompanied by 60 Blacks and a number of Coloreds and British, fought on the Day of the Covenant.

Reasonable South Africans, however, are becoming sick and tired of emotional speeches in South Africa which ignore the historic facts and the given of the multicultural society in South Africa, said Drs. Bingle, referring to Mr. Terre Blanche's speech.

The Reverend Botman could not be reached yesterday.

The Day of the Covenant is a Boer celebration and is not binding on Cape Coloreds; Black nations; and White "Cape Dutch," South Africans, and Afrikaners. The Day of the Covenant should only be celebrated in a free Boer state.

Thus says Mr. Robert van Tonder, the leader of the Boer State Party, in a press statement released yesterday.

According to the press statement, the Day of the Covenant should not be celebrated in Cape Province and Natal, because "it is not part of their history."

Mr. Van Tonder adds that the Boers are not obliged to alter the meaning of the Day of the Covenant "to adapt to the wishes of other peoples."

*** Colored Student Awarded Rhodes Scholarship**

91AF0486A BEELD in Afrikaans 18 Dec 90 p 3

[Report: "Rand University Student Awarded Rhodes Scholarship"]

[Text] The much sought-after Rhodes scholarship recently was awarded to a colored student for the first time.

Christopher Landsberg (23) of Reigerpark, Boksburg, a student at the Rand Afrikaans University (RAU), is one of four students who received the sought-after scholarship. It is the first time that the honor is bestowed on a RAU student.

With the scholarship, Christopher will be able to study for three years at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom.

"I am already a little over the excitement and now realize what happened to me. Many people see the fact that I am colored and received the scholarship as a breakthrough. I don't mind that, but I did my best, and I believe I deserve it," he said.

This coming year Christopher will study for a master's degree in international politics at the Rhodes University in Grahamstad. Afterwards he will continue his studies in the United Kingdom, at the University of Oxford.

"I am thinking of studying for a Ph.D. degree over there, but I am not sure yet," he said.

In his student years at the RAU he was very active. Among other things, he was the chairman of the Concerned Black Students' Organization and president of the Black Students' Society.

"Racial relations on the campus were not very healthy in the past, but we have progressed quite far," he said.

This year, Christopher passed the honors' degree in Development Administration with honor.

ANGOLA

* Reportage on MPLA Third Congress

* Opening Ceremony

91AF0464A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] If the turnabout which the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party has proposed can be measured by the clock, then we may definitely conclude that the change has in fact already taken place. The agenda of the Third Party Congress, which began yesterday [4 Dec] here in Luanda, said that the president of the party would enter the auditorium at 0959, and it was precisely at that moment that he appeared before the delegates and guests of that general session.

Thus, since 1000 yesterday morning, the 694 delegates have been studying the current political situation in the country, on the basis of the decisions of the last meeting of the outgoing Central Committee, which pointed to a change in the political character of the party, in view of the changes taking place in the national political scene.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos again called attention to this responsibility in his opening address, which was delivered after his election, by acclamation, as president of the congress.

In addition to the discussion and approval of the report of the outgoing Central Committee, the agenda of this Third Congress includes a study of the proposed statutes and program of the party, and discussion of the general bases for the overall revision of the Constitution, as well as the election of the president of the party for the next term and of a new Central Committee.

Following the president's address, the report of the Central Committee was presented to the congress. The document was read by Juliao Mateus Paulo "Dino Matross," member of the Politburo and Central Committee secretary for state and judicial organs. This was an innovation, since, in previous general meetings of the party, the president had performed this task.

Also in the opening session, the delegates elected the organs of the congress, namely: the chair, consisting of members of the Politburo and the Central Committee Secretariat, the coordinator of the Central Committee for Control and Revision, and the oldest and youngest delegates; the Secretariat; the Mandates Commission; and the Electoral Commission.

The opening session began with a welcoming address to the delegates and guests, delivered by delegate Maria Ruth Neto, a member of the outgoing Central Committee, who made particular reference to the delegates from provinces which, over the past five years, have experienced the most intensive aggression and murderous rage of the enemies of our people.

Of the 694 delegates elected to this congress, 86 are members of the present Central Committee, 433 were elected in provincial conferences, 97 were elected [in conference] in the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola], 26 were elected [in conference] in the Minse [Ministry of State Security], seven were elected [in conference] in the Minte [Ministry of the Interior], five were elected [in conference] in the party committee of the headquarters of the Central Committee and dependencies, two were elected [in conference] in the party committee in the Office of the President of the Republic, four were elected [in conference] in the party committee in the Republic of Cuba, six were elected [in conference] in the party committee in the Soviet Union, and the remaining 26 delegates are from independent base organizations outside the country. [figures as published]

Some 676 delegates are attending the congress, 617 of whom are men and 59 are women. The social composition is as follows: nine workers (1.33 percent); six peasants (0.8 percent); 557 employees and intellectuals (82.3 percent); and 104 others (15.3 percent).

The oldest delegate to the congress is party militant Manuel Simao dos Santos, 69, a native of Bengo Province and a peasant [farmer] by profession, and the youngest is Domingos Matemba Massuno, 26, a native of Luanda Province and a civil servant.

The number of delegates initially planned for the conference was 700. According to Francisco Magalhaes Paiva "Nvunda," coordinator of the Mandates Commission, this represents a ratio of one delegate for each 100 party members.

Preparations for the Third Party Congress began two years ago, with the enthusiastic participation of the party militants and the people, who considered and presented proposals to the party leadership. "Many of the proposals arose from the most varied and profound criticisms and the Central Committee gave them due consideration," according to Francisco Magalhaes Paiva, who is a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee.

Several dozen invited guests attended the opening ceremony; there were underground fighters, and [fighters] from the first and second wars of national liberation, traditional [tribal] authorities, survivors of the "trial of the five" and of 4 February, and members of the Association of Combat Veterans, as well as representatives of the FAPLA and of the organizations of security and internal order, members of the government, representatives of mass organizations and associations, members of the clergy, and outstanding workers and sports figures in various fields. Members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the People's Republic of Angola also attended.

Before the opening session of the congress, the delegates went to the tomb of Dr. Antonio Agostinho Neto, immortal leader of the Angolan revolution and first president of the MPLA-Labor Party, where they paid homage to this national hero.

* 'Democratic Pragmatism'

91AF0464B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Dec 90 p 1

[Commentary in praise of "democratic pragmatism"]

[Text] Inaugurating the Third Congress of the MPLA-Labor Party yesterday, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos once again revealed the courage that characterizes the enlightened and honest leaders who are aware of the historic mission which rests on their shoulders and who have adopted the slogan: "The most important task is to solve the problems of the people," as their mission, their very reason for being.

Simply, President Eduardo dos Santos admitted the possibility that "this may be the last congress of the MPLA-Labor Party under the single party system.

Certainly, it could not have been very easy for Jose Eduardo dos Santos to have arrived at such a conclusion in the Africa of today, torn by immense conflicts that are almost always linked to the unbridled ambition for personal power (or the power of a class, a family or a tribe). But it would be, at the very least, dishonest for us to see this position as a whim of political opportunism; the Angolan governing class can be credited with having known how to read the times, when in January 1985—on the occasion of the First National Party Congress—it acknowledged the failure of the bureaucratic methods aimed at the economy and the inappropriateness of ideologizing every facet of life.

"We may, then, take pride in having initiated the appropriate political and economic reforms in the Angolan society, based on our own observations, on the study of our own social, political, economic, and cultural reality," affirmed Jose Eduardo dos Santos yesterday, subtly chiding us for not having understood immediately that, when, in 1985, we recommended the decentralization of the economic administration and the adoption of the "policy of alliance" (in short, a change in the management structure of the Angolan economy), it would require a change in the political system as well.

Despite having managed at least since 1985, we have to admit that this [change] is not painless. But the distance [between a single party system and a multiparty system] is not as painful or as short as the distance between a single party system and despotism. Modibo Diagouraga, secretary general of the "Pan-African" Association, writing in the magazine AFRICA 2000, tells us that under the present conditions there is no real equilibrium between the power and the opposition forces and that no strategy for meeting the basic needs of the people can be successful without their democratic participation. This policy requires that the people take part in the decisions that concern them, through their own organizations. He concludes that, at the present time, what the African

countries need is "democratic pragmatism," a pragmatism that is not to be confused with nihilistic experiments or the mechanical transposition of foreign experiences, because, as Jose Eduardo dos Santos also said yesterday, referring to the future designation of the party, "we have a long and rich historical heritage. This heritage must serve in the future to prevent us from repeating the mistakes we have made. For this very reason, the remodeling of the party program and its modernization does not mean a break with or a negation of the past."

The scenario and the context of the struggle have changed, but our faith in victory remains. "In this phase of the struggle," said the comrade president, "the guarantee of victory for any party will be the justice of the principles and policies it defends. Victory will depend strongly on the work of the party militants and activists within society."

And you, my comrade, what will you do? What will you do, my comrade?

Victory is certain! That is, if we respond to the challenge that history has given us "with competence, creativity, and boldness, taking care that the consolidation of democracy and democratic institutions does not entail unnecessary sacrifices for the people or political tricks that foster demagoguery, opportunism and international manipulation," as the comrade president warned yesterday.

* Central Committee Report

91AF0464C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Dec 90 p 2

[Text] The proper political and economic reform coordination which is taking place in this country has gradually robbed the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] of any pretension to the legitimacy of its armed opposition to the instituted power in Angola.

In the summary of its report, presented yesterday to the congress by Juliao Mateus Paulo "Dino Matross," outgoing member of the Politburo, the party leadership concludes that, faced with the new situation in the country, for which it is unprepared, the UNITA is now taking more and more incoherent and indefensible positions, "which indicates that it never intended to accept the free play of democracy, but only to attempt to seize power by force."

"The intransigent and aggressive position of the UNITA is to prevent the already initiated process of democratization from being carried out more quickly, impeding the solution of the principal problems with which our people are still struggling."

Noting that little progress has been made in the direct contacts which the government has maintained with the UNITA, under Portuguese mediation, the Central Committee again reminds all Angolans that only the signing

of an effective cease-fire agreement, to pave the way for an era of peace, will permit "the full use of our enormous human and material potential for the economic and social development of the country."

Divided into seven chapters, the report—an accounting of the last five years of activity of the party and the government which it directs—also affirms that the MPLA-Labor Party, the historic vanguard which directed the struggle of the Angolan people for national independence and led them against the enemy aggressors, will change its character, its style and its work methods, and advises its members that the new political picture, already outlined, "will necessarily require changes in thinking and in posture, given that other [parties] will also be engaging in political activity and that we will have to coexist with them."

In this new scenario, the Central Committee appeals to all the members of the organization to work so that the people, "our first and last consideration, will always be at the center of our concern and our actions and will realize their deepest aspirations for peace, [the people's] well-being, and social justice."

Meanwhile, despite the sensitive moments that must be experienced as the political competition becomes established, the MPLA-Labor Party believes that "the strength and the cohesion of the party in all the difficult moments of its rich and victorious path will remain indestructible and will be inspired by the principles that have always" identified it with the people and by the example left by President Dr. Agostinho Neto.

The Central Committee declares that these principles have made it possible to consolidate the nation and to preserve the conquests that we achieved "by the grace of the self-sacrifice of the militant masses and the blood spilled by our heroes."

Affirming that, in this time of change, there is no reason "to renounce the past, which gave the world an unparalleled example of a heroic and united people," the MPLA-Labor Party can only take pride in having assumed the leadership of the Angolan people in a decisive period of their history, "maintaining the dignity that was the legacy of their ancestors and preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country in the face of all the detestable imperialist aggression to which it was subjected."

The outgoing directors of the MPLA-Labor Party pledge, as militants and patriots, to "continue the struggle for the worth and dignity of the Angolan citizen, facing all the tasks given to us by the congress with the same dedication and valor and in the spirit of builders of a new society."

Analyzing the country's present economic situation, the Central Committee concluded that the difficult times that we have experienced during five years resulted basically from the serious crisis of the petroleum prices—which occurred in the first two months after the

Second Party Congress—and from the South African aggression, which assumed particularly dramatic proportions in 1988.

The drop in the petroleum prices resulted in a loss of \$800 million, while the increasing racist aggression forced the country to spend more than a billion dollars, in a single year, to purchase arms to combat the aggressors and to guarantee the integrity of our territory. Even so, the Central Committee acknowledges that the efforts since 1985 to rescue the country from the economic crisis have also been impeded by shortcomings in the "political, economic, and administrative apparatus, which did not keep up with the same pace or the desired changes in coordination."

The pace of change was so slow and uncoordinated that it led to a "relative governmental impasse" in the first quarter of this year, necessitating emergency measures capable of reactivating the SEF [Economic and Financial Reorganization] Program, "which were manifested in a Government Action Program and in the replacement of the ministers in charge of economic affairs."

The Central Committee stressed that when the government adopted the Economic Recovery Plan, the intent was to do away with the administrative methods and to create the conditions to initiate economic stabilization and recovery, while at the same time it sought the restructure of the executive entities of the state apparatus, to curb the bureaucracy and improve governmental efficiency.

"Unfortunately," the party leadership admits, "there was a certain lack of realism in predicting how much time would be needed to carry out all these changes, aggravated by the resistance in some sectors of the party and state and by the shortage of experienced cadres capable of assimilating the new economic ideas and putting them quickly into practice."

From its reading of the new international climate, given the disappearance of the so-called socialist community, the Central Committee came away with the lesson that today it is vital to follow paths that take into consideration the "satisfaction of the needs, the welfare and the social progress of the people," and it points to "what is happening today in the countries of Eastern Europe" as proof that its reading of the situation is correct.

"Contrary to what happened in the past, when various pretexts were invoked to demand more sacrifices of the people, the governments of these countries are now focusing their concern on economic and social progress."

The Central Committee further considers that the combination of crises that "toppled all those countries only confirms the failure of authoritarian methods in building socialism, although the ideals continue to be the inspiration for thought and action to a significant part of mankind and are among the universal values that any democratic state is proud to include in its constitution."

The party leadership believes that what is basically at issue in the process is the need to establish states of law which permit "all citizens to take part in solving the problems affecting the society as a whole, thus closing the gulf previously observed between the established power and the popular masses and creating the conditions for the adoption of economic measures capable of meeting the growing material needs of the people."

In our country, this gulf has begun to narrow since the beginning of this year, which—for this very reason—it is called the year of the "Broadening of Democracy," in which a series of political reforms are to be implemented, to broaden the participation of the citizens in our political and social life, which will gradually lead to the definition, in the near future, of a multiparty system in the country.

We will continue with this summary of the report of the outgoing Central Committee to the Third Party Congress in later editions of this newspaper.

* Congress Participants

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[Text] There are 694 delegates attending the present party congress, which represents an approximate ratio of one delegate for every 100 members of the party. The delegates were elected as follows:

Central Committee members	86
Elected in provincial conferences	433
Elected in conference in the FAPLA	97
Elected in conference in the Ministry of State Security	26
Elected in conference in the Ministry of the Interior	7
Elected in conference of the party committee in the Central Committee headquarters	5
Elected in conference of the party committee in the Office of the President	4
Elected in conference of the party committee in the USSR	4
Elected in independent party organizations abroad	26

Some 608 delegates, or 86.8 percent, were elected in assemblies or conferences in the organic process; adding the 86 members of the Central Committee, who are delegates by right, the total number of delegates was 694, or 99.1 percent of the number planned.

There are 676 delegates present at the congress, or 97.6 percent of the planned number of delegates; 617 are men and 59 are women. The social composition is as follows:

Social Composition

Category	Number	Percentage
Workers	9	1.33%
Peasants	6	0.8%
Employees and Intellectuals	557	82.3%
Others	104	15.3%

Age of the Delegates

Age Group	Number
18 to 30	27
31 to 40	423
41 to 50	164
51 to 60	51
Over 60	11

The oldest delegate to the Third Congress is a peasant [farmer], Manuel Simao dos Santos, 69, a member of the Bengo delegation; the youngest is Domingos Matemba Massingo, 26, a member of the Luanda delegation and a civil servant by profession.

Length of Party Membership According to Time of Entry

Time of entry	Number of delegates
Entered in 1956	7
Entered between 1957 and 1961	48
Entered between 1962 and 1974	321
Entered between 1975 and 1977	198
Entered between 1978 and 1985	492
Entered between 1986 and 1990	65

Eighty six of the delegates took part in the First Congress; 107 participated in the Extraordinary Congress; 103 took part in the First National Party Conference; 142 took part in the Second Congress; 53 took part in the First Extraordinary Congress, the First National Conference and the Second Congress.

One hundred delegates took part in the clandestine struggle; 112 fought in the First War for National Liberation; 332 were in the Second War for National Liberation; and 176 were awarded certificates of merit or were decorated.

* MPLA Restructuring

91AF0464E Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p 2

[Commentary by Leston Bandeira]

[Text] Describing itself as a progressive party, not based on class, open to all sectors of the population, with the strategic objective of establishing a democratic socialist regime, the MPLA-Labor Party has redefined itself for

the world and is opening up windows to the world. By returning to the condition of vanguard of all the people, which marked its political-military activity as a liberation movement for national independence, the MPLA is resuming the condition it assumed from 1975 to 1977 as a liberation movement in power, but now without the weight of contradictory pressures which forced it to take a position within the framework of then established international alliances.

With the reformulation of the MPLA-Labor Party, Angola resumes the position of a country free of obligatory alliances at the international level and regains the right to call for international solidarity and diversified cooperation; it recovers the will to use its political-diplomatic action exclusively in the defense of its general or situational interests.

Whatever the conclusions of the Third MPLA-Party Congress, the reactions at the international level cannot be too diversified, particularly since the USSR, its traditional ally, is undergoing a similar evolution at this time.

As important as the recovery of all this potential by the Angolan state, which must immediately be reflected in a new attitude in the international community, is the fact that the country is also presenting itself as an equal partner in the formulation of the new framework of alliances that is taking shape on the international scene.

In fact, the disappearance of the so-called East-West conflict gave rise to the formulation of another type of blocs, considered more global, and in which, foreseeably, the military component will be of little importance.

The crisis experienced by the great empires gave rise to a different correlation of forces at the international level and in the new picture there will be no place for options based exclusively on the defense of ideological principles. It will always be in the conquest of parcels of "terrain" that the advances and retreats will be played out, which will determine the well-being or the crises of the various states.

The alliances of the future will not be so rigid as the ones now in place, even in the international councils. The struggles will always be circumstantial and the shifting pattern of alliances will constitute a game that only those countries that are free from rigid ideologies will be able to play.

For the rest of the world with an interest in Africa (and this means the whole world), the redefinition of the MPLA-Labor Party will create a great opportunity, but also a huge appetite; Angola is one of the most coveted African countries.

For historical reasons, the entire African continent is finding it difficult to define its role in the new picture suggested by the probable creation of economic and political superblobs. The theoreticians of European politics understand that Africa will necessarily be allied

with the EEC bloc; otherwise the structural crisis that is widespread in Africa would be difficult to overcome. In Europe, particularly in the EEC, there are some states that may strive to exercise influence in certain areas in which they claim to have "historical" interests.

The United States, struggling with a domestic crisis which could also be classified as structural, has a tendency and a temptation to expand its hegemony in the direction of Africa, where it is competing for influence, even with some of its staunchest allies.

The Soviet Union also lays claim to historical ties with Africa and would certainly be pleased to establish bridges with its partners, after—obviously—solving its internal problems and defining its place in the present-day world: a Euro-Asian bloc or a "Europe House" with close ties to the EEC, now focusing strongly on the "reconstruction" of Eastern Europe? Or an attempt to achieve both of these?

And Japan? Primarily responsible for the shift of the axis of economic development from the Atlantic to the Pacific, Japan cannot lose sight of the African possibilities.

It is within this framework of questions of redefinition that the MPLA is redefining itself and finding its place in the world, and may interpret the lust of which it is the object. It is desirable to have the possibility of choice, and the MPLA has the widest possible range of options and the freedom to exercise them in accordance with its own interests.

* President on Small Business

91AF0464F Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 7 Dec 90 p 2

[Article by A. Muatxianvua, Graca Campos, Osvaldo Campos, and Joao Pokongo]

[Text] The president of the MPLA-Labor Party explained yesterday that the purpose of encouraging small business activity is to "make use of the potential that exists in our society for the development of the national economy."

With this statement, Jose Eduardo dos Santos sought to calm the fears of a delegate who had asked if the emergence of a strong business class in Angola would not jeopardize the project for democratic socialism undertaken by the MPLA-Labor Party.

"We do not have a strong business class today; it is very small.

"But it is desirable that the business class grow, particularly at the level of small businesses that are producing materials and also goods and services.

"If we could encourage the activities of the small businessmen in all areas of life, we would very soon be able to organize an official market which could compete with

the parallel market and, in this context, increase the supply, not of imported goods, but basically of goods produced inside our country. "Does this go against socialism?" the president asked, and then answered the question himself: "I think not, because the state would then concern itself solely with strategic activity, with the large units, but always within the policy—already defined—of independent management of the state companies."

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also voiced his conviction that "we could not build socialism if we did otherwise."

"If we continue the present policy of the growing and almost absolute nationalization of the means of production, I do not believe we would be building socialism."

Warning that the country is faced with serious problems in the area of management, the president noted that if there is no opportunity for small business activity, it will be difficult to create wealth, well-being, and we will continue to have big shortages of essential goods.

"And, politically, our regime could not survive, could not maintain itself. So it is extremely important to make use of the small business agents in this phase. It is a necessary alliance; I would even say it is an inevitable alliance."

For the rest, our leader explained, everything will depend on "how we orient our development, how we carry out our policy of industrialization, because it is only in the perspective of creating a strong and aware working class that we can think of building socialism. And it does not seem to me," the chief of state said with his characteristic realism, "that this is a five- or 10-year project. We have to look at it in stages. The first phase is one of feeding and clothing the people, fostering national unity and, naturally, through macroeconomic policy, guaranteeing a more or less balanced and just distribution of income, eliminating the shocking differences."

Incidentally, in this first phase there is no risk that some of the nation's businessmen will strike it rich immediately, because "in the government strategy there is no idea of turning the small and medium businessmen into great money barons, into very rich men."

For this very reason, said the president, in the last meeting of the Council of Ministers "we adopted the principle of distributing the economic units to be privatized among small units, among the largest possible number of businessmen, to prevent any accumulation."

Moreover, to prevent the swift and sudden enrichment of the businessmen, the government will adopt a tax policy whereby "we can create the various balances that will prevent the excessive enrichment of some economic agents."

* Discussion on Pluralism

91AF0464G Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 7 Dec 90 p 2

[Article by A. Muatxianvua, Graca Campos, Osvaldo Goncalves, and Joao Pakongo]

[Text] It cannot be said that the "dialogue" among the delegates to the Third MPLA-Labor Party Congress was very peaceful yesterday, the third day of the congress, when the summary of the report by the outgoing Central Committee was presented for its analysis. Quite the contrary.

The agenda stated that the summary of this document would be approved at 1730 yesterday, but in fact the vote had to be postponed until this morning. The summary of the Central Committee report gave rise to a lively debate; most of the delegates who spoke considered the report superficial.

The delegates pointed to the document's shortcomings, including imprecise data and its failure to address certain questions that the delegates considered important. Some speakers argued that the report-accounting should not be limited just to reporting what was done or not done, to the implementation or non-implementation of the guidelines of the Second Party Congress and other party directives, but it should point to the reasons for the non-implementation and failures in certain sectors, as well as possible solutions in such cases.

Questions on the internal life of the party and its growth, education, health, and food supplies, and also the Government Action Program and defense-related matters received the most attention from the delegates.

According to the opinions expressed, the report was not critical enough in its evaluation of these sectors and did not reflect reality in these areas.

Hence, some delegates disagreed with the references made in the summary and proposed amendments to the document, and others pointed to situations that they felt were troubling and that should be reflected in the report.

The speakers brought up aspects that could be considered sensitive, such as the phenomenon of corruption; this has merited special attention from the president of the party, who has already ordered that a commission be formed to study this phenomenon; the commission's findings should be discussed by the party and government leaders within a short time.

In yesterday's session, the idea was expressed that the results achieved to date, issues of implementation or non-implementation, are already in the past and that this congress should concentrate on defining the tasks for the future.

The number of speeches (about 70) really reflected the delegates' concern about the existing problems. However, the sense of the meeting was that the almost 700

delegates to this major party event wanted to clear up all the problems and to end the congress with a stronger party, prepared to face this new phase of history.

The tone of the delegates' speeches in yesterday's session and the aspects on which they focused were, above all, unequivocal proof of the pluralistic atmosphere that has been building within the party.

On the other hand, the speeches demonstrated the militants' true connection with the rank and file and with the people, because most of the questions raised had to do with the living conditions of the population.

The delegates were asking so many questions that Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the congress, chose to have the directors of the sectors themselves offer the necessary explanations, as they are in fact competent to do.

This led to a further heated debate in the afternoon session, which the president, with his wisdom and considerable firmness, was able to moderate.

Without running the risk of falling into a personality cult, we must comment that the manner in which President Jose Eduardo dos Santos led yesterday's discussion session is proof of his political touch and his leadership ability.

* Corruption Discussed

91AF0464H Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 7 Dec 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Applause Is Not Enough"]

[Text] When this edition went to press yesterday at 2300 hours, heated debate was still in progress, aroused by the evaluation of the summary of the report by the outgoing Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party to the Third Party Congress, seen by observers as the congress of change. The delegates engaged in a real marathon of open debate in their obvious determination to examine the reasons for the ills that afflict our society and their equally clear anxiety to find solutions to the crisis.

Thus, lengthy applause followed the speech by delegate Jose Eduardo dos Reis, who feels the president of the party is not sufficiently aware of the extent of the corruption and speculation or of the persecution of honest workers who are willing to denounce the plunderers of the nation's economy. He related his personal story. It happens that he had repeatedly reported the diversion of truckloads and truckloads of merchandise from the Edimba [National Food Distribution Enterprise]; the end result was that he was arrested and later banished to Kuando-Kubango. Jose Eduardo dos Reis offered to gather up all the papers documenting the matter and delivering them to the comrade president so the proper steps could be taken.

Is this not reason for applause? As if this were not enough, the responsible ministers were called upon to

offer explanations on some aspects that were not very clear, at least to some of the delegates. Particularly noteworthy here were the lengthy speeches by the planning and finance ministers on the aspects of the Government Action Program and by the General director of Endiama [National Diamond Company] on the social policy of this mining enterprise.

In like manner, Desiderio Costa, vice minister of petroleum, was called to the podium three times by the comrade president, to explain the irregularities in the London office of Sonangol [National Angolan Fuel Company]—commonly known as the "Sonangol scandal."

It was also learned that efforts are still underway to bring criminal charges against the Sonangol high officials who were implicated; the \$20 million in indemnities obtained in the settlement of the suit against the foreign adviser who was involved will be used to finance a future children's institute.

Many other matters were brought up yesterday in the Third Congress: the necessary joining of diplomatic and military efforts to bring peace to the country; the peace that the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] does not want; the disgraceful blackmail attempts by the United States of America; the enemy attempts to divide the leadership of the party; the selfless efforts of the FAPLA to neutralize the enemy strategy; our faith in final victory.

We should note again, above all, the great skill of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in handling the most difficult situations. It seems essential to us to consider the great lack of theoretical training revealed in the speeches of many of the delegates (perhaps still bound to atavistic ideologies whose time has passed), who resorted in some cases to speeches of the comrade president, taken out of context, to parrot sectarian preconceptions. In the end, the delegates' speeches simply revealed their fears regarding the strategic objectives of democratic socialism—from which we conclude that it is not enough to applaud. We must take up our political project right away. Right now, in this Third Congress. [We must] make the turn.

* Commentary on 'Openness'

91AF0464I Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 2

[Text] Eight ministers and the chief of the Directorate of Staff of the Defense Ministry were called upon yesterday to clarify various questions on the function of their respective sectors, questions raised by delegates to the Third Party Congress, in an exercise which observers see as an effort to give the greatest possible "openness" to the administration of the country, since up to now the MPLA-Labor Party has played the role of the governing power of the state.

This effort became even more apparent when a delegate questioned the competence of the president of the congress to "speak for" members of the government. It soon became clear that the request of the delegates was legitimate, particularly to dispel misunderstandings and to restore the necessary climate of confidence if the government is to do its job well.

The delegates learned, for example, that the commission which the president of the republic had recently created to study the phenomenon of corruption—our greatest affliction, next to the war, according to Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos himself—was working at full speed and that its conclusions might be discussed as early as the next session of the Council of Ministers.

Justice Minister Lazaro Dias said that one of these conclusions pointed to the need for an autonomous institution, independent of the political power (in the nature of a "High Authority Against Corruption"), which would be responsible for handling reports and complaints of abuses and acts of corruption, both in terms of investigating these cases and seeing the "dossiers" through to their conclusion, with full respect for the law and the fundamental rights of the citizens.

The minister said that one of the areas most vulnerable to corruption is the state business sector, in which the administrators show an unusual eagerness to import goods and equipment, for the sole purpose of appropriating the so-called "commissions." This results not only in the illegal enrichment of these administrators but also the abandonment of machinery and equipment, which, instead of being thrown on the scrap heap, could very well be repaired at minimum expense.

By reason of the present exercise in openness, the delegates learned that Jose Morais ("Monte")—the first petroleum minister of the People's Republic of Angola, who left the country several years ago while he was still serving in the Ministry, has returned to the country, and there is no legal action pending against him. The charges against him are inconclusive, as well as the charges against a former general director of Sonangol. On learning that "Monte" would like to reenter the party and serve in institutions for rehabilitation and assistance to veterans, the delegates responded with muffled laughter. Most revealing.

But there was no laughter when Petroleum Minister Zeferino Casso Yombo reported that our country has not been able to meet certain clauses in our financial agreement with Brazil regarding the construction of [the] Capanda [dam], in Malanje, so we are now \$156 million short of what is needed to guarantee that construction will go ahead. A high-level government commission will soon be going to Brazil to try to reopen the lines of credit previously granted for the project, which is tremendously important for the socioeconomic development of the country.

There was a time when we would have heard this type of "information" through the grapevine. Isn't this a sign of the times? Of a change for the better?

Postscript: Most of the foreign newsmen assigned to cover the Third Congress presented a signed petition expressing their unhappiness with the discrimination to which they have been subjected with regard to access to sources of information regarding the proceedings.

Expressing surprise, a source close to the individual to whom the petition was addressed asked us why the foreign correspondents could not have used the national MDM [expansion not given] as a source, along with their daily press conference with the spokesman for the congress.

* Death Penalty Discussed

91AF0464J Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 2

[Article by A. Muatxianvua, Gracas Campos, Osvaldo Goncalves, and Joao Pokongo]

[Text] Abolition of the death penalty was included in the proposed bases and guidelines for the broad and radical revision of the Constitution, contained in a document submitted to the Third Party Congress which is now being held in Luanda. The item gave rise to strong debate and disagreement in the committee formed to analyze the document.

The congressional committee on constitutional revision, coordinated by Juliao Mateus Paulo ("Dino Matross"), member of the Politburo of the outgoing Central Committee, could not reach a consensus on the matter of the death penalty and drafted a memorandum to be presented to the plenary session that will begin this morning at 0800 hours.

The delegates in favor of abolishing the death penalty base their position on the need to revise the Constitution to reflect the announced reforms, within a framework of a multiparty society, embracing the most elementary principles of human rights.

Some delegates even said that it made "no political sense" not to include abolition of the death penalty in the proposal for the future Constitution, since this would mean "passing the ball" to other political forces, which would eventually introduce this initiative in the context of enriching the draft bill.

In any event, the matter should merit broad discussion in this morning's plenary session. Moreover, the technical commission charged with revising the Constitution made it known that the draft Constitution, which will be drafted soon, will be discussed by all the people and it is presumed at the outset that the public will have a wealth of proposals to offer on this matter.

During yesterday's debates, there was a group that opposed the abolishing of the death penalty, while a few

delegates proposed that the maximum penalty be replaced by life imprisonment.

There was concern regarding the establishment of a multiparty system in Angola and regarding the semi-presidentialist system proposed by the National Commission for Revision of the Constitution.

The issue of the presidency of the republic also gave rise to strong debate in the committee, since many feel there is a need to explain who is eligible to run for president of the republic; that is, the degree of citizenship required for this office must be very well defined. The authors of the document under discussion propose that the candidate must be a native citizen of Angola.

Regarding the length of term of the president of the republic, the delegates agreed on a term of five years, with reelection to a second term only.

The proposal that presidential candidates must resign from political parties was strongly disputed by some delegates, who felt that the candidate should be required to resign from his party only if he is elected.

The delegates also agreed that the minimum age of a presidential candidate should not be 35, as proposed in the document, but 30.

Regarding the formation of political parties, it was recommended that Christian parties should not be prohibited.

During the discussion of the general bases for the revision of the Constitution, it was inferred that the MPLA-Labor Party really intends to give the country a constitution of national consensus, and that, for this reason, the draft bill will be submitted for discussion by the people.

Up to now, the People's Assembly has had constituent powers, and it is immediately presumed that the new Constitution will be approved by the People's Assembly. Yet the question was raised yesterday. Should the People's Assembly be competent to approve the new Constitution?

All the opinions expressed yesterday will be submitted to the commission for revision of the Constitution.

The general bases also consider the right to strike, but they propose a ban against closing the company (prohibition of the "lockout")—i.e., when workers are on strike, the management may not close down the company before the differences are settled.

In the new Constitution, the People's Assembly will be designated the National Assembly; regarding the designation of the republic, some delegates felt it should continue to be known as the People's Republic of Angola.

Regarding the financing of the political parties to be created in the country, the technical commission

informed the delegates that the parties would be financed by the General State Budget, which will have a special entry for this, in addition to the funds that the parties themselves can raise from their members.

During yesterday's debates, it was proposed to ban dual citizenship in Angola, a matter which was taken into consideration by the technical commission.

In the economic area, the general bases propose an economic system based on a harmonious combination of market forces and social interests.

The state will protect foreign investment and the property of foreigners. It is also proposed to recognize the right of economic agents to form associations.

* Ministers Report

91AF0464K Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 2

[Article by A. Muatxianvua, Gracas Campos, Osvaldo Goncalves, and Joao Pokongo]

[Text] Eight members of the government offered clarifications to the delegates of the Third MPLA-Labor Party Congress yesterday, on the fourth day of proceedings. The ministers answered questions by the delegates on their sectors during the sessions to discuss the summary of the report presented by the outgoing Central Committee.

Since the 70 or so delegates who spoke during Thursday's proceedings generally considered the report to be too superficial, it was necessary to call on the ministers responsible for the sectors under discussion, to provide the needed clarifications. Regarding the competency of the congress to question members of the government, it should be said that the president of the party explained that the government members who were called upon to provide clarifications were doing so in their capacity as party militants. Thus, the 700 some delegates to the Third Congress heard from the ministers of education, health, construction, youth and sports, foreign relations, the interior, and energy and petroleum. The chief of the Directorate of Cadres of the Defense Ministry also spoke.

Education Minister Augusto Lopes Teixeira addressed the congress, explaining the new system of education and training to the delegates. This system will replace the present system, which is presenting several shortcomings. Approved by the First Party Congress, the present system has declined in quality, which is reflected in the poor results achieved. In 1988, the Politburo recommended that a new model be studied.

The new system will be implemented over a transition period comprising three phases: the first phase (1989-1991) is the preparatory phase; the second (1991-1994) is one of experimentation, in which the two systems will coexist; and the third phase (1994-1995) will be one of evaluation.

The reformulation seeks to introduce a system more in keeping with our reality. According to the minister, the present model is not consistent with the available resources or management capacity.

The education minister also explained the current situation with regard to the Law Faculty, which he said was experiencing problems with the lack of facilities. He also brought up the Intermediate Institute of Economics in Luanda, whose facilities are to be built with ABD [African Development Bank] financing in the amount of \$14 million (also covering a similar institution in Malanje), but construction has not begun as yet for lack of equipment.

Augusto Lopes also spoke of the extension of secondary and higher education to the provinces. He said that this is a basic problem. Secondary education is available in 14 of the 18 provinces of the country, excluding Lunda-Norte, Bengo, Cunene, and Kuando-Kubango provinces, and higher education is offered only in Luanda, Huambo, and Huila provinces. The minister said that a strategy was needed for the development of education and that a commission has been established for this purpose.

Construction Minister Jose Garcia discussed the situation in his sector. He began by focusing on the general situation in the country, referring to transportation problems, the idled construction materials industry, and other problems.

Responding to a delegate's question regarding areas where construction work had been completed on the infrastructures mentioned in the Central Committee report, the minister cited only a few cases, namely, the repair of roads (Luanda-Sumbe, Luanda-Catete, Luanda-Caxito) and the repair of bridges by the National Enterprise in the area, the repair of the Gove dam, in Benguela, and little else.

Jose Garcia ("Cabelo Branco") stressed the problem of the lack of a construction materials industry. As we understand it, this is the biggest problem in his sector, which is responsible for the production of cement and bricks, but which needs paint, lumber, and other materials which are produced by other sectors.

It was also noted that the report states that the Construction Ministry has not assumed its role as the head entity of this activity and adds that some measures are already being outlined in this regard. The minister noted, however, that it was not up to the Construction Ministry to go in search of clients, but that the clients should seek out the construction companies. This view seems to us to be out of context in the market economy that we are seeking to establish.

For his part, the health minister said the inclusion of private medicine in the Angolan health system is under study. Flavio Fernandes said a commission has been formed, composed of 10 physicians in various specialties, which is preparing a document to present to the

government, but it will not be ready until February or March 1991. The policy of alliances has already been implemented, with the survey of religious organizations that are interested in acting in the health field, of dental clinics, which have never been under state control, and of pharmacies equipped to produce galenic medicines; 30 pharmacies of this type have already been opened in the country.

According to the minister, medicines are the "Achilles heel" of the sector, because the country does not produce medicines and, for financial reasons, it is difficult to import medicines, which come primarily from Switzerland, Portugal, and the FRG.

He warned that, because the credits for the importation of medicines are currently blocked, even if negotiations to unblock them are successful, "the next few months will be very difficult for us."

At the request of the delegates, Pedro de Castro Van Dunem, minister of foreign relations, discussed two issues: relations with the Republic of Zaire; and the functioning of the Angolan diplomatic missions abroad. On the first point, he said that Zaire's policy with regard to Angola has to do with its alliance with the United States of America, which explains its constant interference in the internal affairs of our country, while at the same time it seeks to justify this with insidious language in relation to the People's Republic of Angola.

Regarding the functioning of the Angolan missions abroad, he said that the principal problem is the lack of cadres with the necessary diplomatic training and the lack of communication between the Ministry and the diplomatic missions. He added that the chiefs of mission have been spending more time on administrative matters than on diplomatic activity.

On the other hand, he announced that the sector is taking measures to remodel the diplomatic missions, including a reduction in personnel and in the number of embassies.

Zeferino Casso Iombo, minister of energy and petroleum, informed the delegates about the master plan for the electric power sector and the current status of construction on the Kapanda [Capanda] dam.

Iombo announced that this plan, which was drafted with the aid of a Belgian firm and with \$1.2 million in financing from the ADB, and which covers all areas of the electric power sector, from the production of power to transportation and distribution nationwide, would be implemented over a 20-year period (1990-2010). The primary problem encountered in implementing the plan is the lack of financing for the various projects that it comprises.

Regarding the Kapanda dam, the minister said the project is "going well," but there is the problem of financing. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$1.5 billion and at this time we are \$156 million short.

The chief of the Directorate of Cadres of the Defense Ministry explained the criteria for the awarding of the various military decorations instituted in the country. The minister of youth and sports discussed aspects of the sports legislation in force and the observance of such legislation.

However, the "hot" issues were the problem of the phenomenon of corruption, addressed by Justice Minister Lazaro Diaz, and the repatriation of Jorge de Moraes ("Monte"), the former minister of petroleum, which was addressed by Interior Minister Francisco Magalhaes Paiva ("N'Vunda").

The justice minister reported to the delegates on the findings of the commission charged with analyzing the phenomenon of corruption in the country. He said the commission studied aspects of the genesis, causes, forms, and implication of the corruption. Regarding its genesis, the minister said that corruption is a phenomenon which is observed in any society, because it originates with the existing social differentiation itself; its causes, which are remote, today have to do with the lack of able officials with a minimum of professional ethics and with the fact that we do not have a real public administration, because the "incompetent ones stay on and the good cadres leave." The forms of corruption are varied, both in the state apparatus and in the business sector, and are motivated primarily by the greed for "commissions," indicated by the great eagerness to resort to imports, without considering the possibility of repairing the existing equipment; the implications are also varied, the most pronounced being the loss of respect for the nation's ethics.

It is difficult to combat corruption, particularly because of the disregard for the authority of the various legal and police structures, the lack of qualified personnel and the fear of reprisals on the part of the legal or police institutions when the individual involved is of a certain social standing.

The minister proposed the creation of a legal institution that would be protected and independent, which would investigate all reports and complaints and take the appropriate legal steps.

The interior minister informed the delegates that Jorge de Moraes ("Monte") had returned to the country some months ago, under the policy of clemency, and was seeking to be productively reintegrated and to be permitted to reenter the ranks of the party.

* Minister on Government Irregularities

91AF0522A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 4 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] A few days ago in Lubango Kundi Payhama, minister of state with responsibilities for inspection and state control, spoke about the absence of a juridical instrument as being the principal source of concern in

his sector and said that it is for this reason that opportune measures have not been taken to combat illegal compliance and fraud committed by certain organizations and government officials in the country.

Kundi Payhama, also a member of the party's Politburo, justified his assertion by pointing out the existence, in the country's highest state organization of power (People's Assembly [AP]), of a series of proposals which, if ratified, will provide more dynamism and autonomy of action to the sector which he directs.

Meanwhile, the minister predicted that the sector of inspection and state control could be eliminated within the scope of changes now underway and the activities inherent in that sector be made a part of the responsibility of the AP or office of the Angolan head of state.

In analyzing the activity of that sector after its establishment, the director said that his office in Luanda had received "many complaints and expressions of concern by citizens" on subjects which were principally social or personal in nature and that, even though directed to the proper organizations, they had met with no solutions.

He cited the case of a citizen, whose name he did not reveal, a student in the third year of college, who was expelled from school for having cheated on her initial enrollment and who, despite being exonerated by the attorney general of the republic and the minister of education (in the citizen's favor), was denied a solution to her problem.

As for allegations of acts of a criminal nature perpetrated against the state by high Angolan Government officials (for example, the Sonangol [National Angolan Fuel Company] and Endiama [National Diamond Company] scandal), Kundi Payhama was peremptory: "The problem is that there was no definite proof. We had cases on which we were working and they ended up with the exoneration of the government officials involved."

"Moreover, we do not receive concrete information on the cases. Much is done by word of mouth and, in addition, some members of the government use subterfuge; instead of using their own name, they use the names of family members, as in the performance of certain commissions which are then difficult to detect," said Minister Payhama.

Referring specifically to the so-called "Sonangol scandal in the London offices" where large sums of money were embezzled in dollars, the minister of state for inspection and state control said that he had heard about that affair through the Western press, particularly with regard to the involvement of the country's high government officials. "But nothing of that nature had specifically come to his attention," he said.

According to the minister, it is dangerous to work with leaders on the basis of intrigue and scandal. Meanwhile, he explained that information concerning this case—to which the Western press apparently had access—was

leaked from his office by, presumably, one of the employees of the inspection and control sector.

He disclosed that a few days ago he also received documents from the principal officeholder in the case (Pegado) in which that individual accuses a number of Angolan leaders of participating in the scenario in question. "But we lack proof," said Kundi Payhama during the interview.

He said that there were cases in which specialists in the sector which he directs were reluctant to act for fear of not having a juridical base which would subsequently defend or protect them. "I have immunity as a member of the party's Politburo, but what about them?" he asked.

The inspection and state control sector cannot be accused of not acting promptly or not sanctioning organizations or entities which did not fulfill their obligations in accordance with the established guidelines. "This is not its responsibility," the minister said.

"That sector," he went on to say, "is responsible for investigating any known irregularities and forwarding the cases in question to the competent organizations. However, there are many things which do not mesh," recognized Payhama.

* Minister Announces Cunene Electrification

91AF0522C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 4 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Energy and Petroleum Minister Zeferino Cassa Yombo recently announced the startup in Xangongo of the electrification of some of the municipalities of Cunene Province, based on a project drawn up by his ministry.

In statements made to ANGOP [Angolan Press Agency] in that locality, Zeferino Cassa Yombo stated that the project involving the electrification of Cunene will begin with the Calueque and Ruacana dams and, in an initial phase, will give priority status to the municipalities of Ondjiva and Xongongo.

In keeping with this project, the minister visited Cunene and gave his assurance that groups of generators would be available and would be installed for the purpose of supplying electrical power to the other provincial municipalities—namely, Cahama, Namacunde, and Cuvelay.

* Health Minister Discusses Status of Sector

91AF0514A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 27 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by Pereira Santana: "Ministry of Health Will Develop Policy of Alliances"]

[Text] This past Thursday [20 December] in Luanda, the minister of health, Flavio Fernandes, stated that the situation in the sector that he heads has been critical for

the past few years due to the many variables that affect the status of health in the country.

Speaking during an interview that he granted to information organizations concerning the work accomplished during the past 12 months, Flavio Fernandes pointed to the war situation that is being experienced in some regions of the country, which has made it impossible for health technicians to be able to operate in those areas, as one of the major factors having an adverse impact on the country's health status.

Other factors such as the food situation, which is caused by the drought in the central and southern parts of the country, the high rate of illiteracy that still exists in a segment of the population, as well as economic factors, were also pointed out by that official.

Referring to the health improvement situation, the head of the health ministry stressed that "it was necessary—at the time of the naming of the new board of directors of that ministry—to visit the entire country in order to verify the health reality of the same."

Following that verification, in order to solve those problems, it was seen as a fundamental strategy to work out development programs, which were already underway in each area, such as the programs to fight cholera, AIDS, sleeping sickness, and malaria. Also fitting into this strategy is the Extended Vaccination Program (PAV), which has been launched in seven of the country's provinces and has already reached nearly 73 to 75 percent of the children.

During the interview, the minister of health also dealt with questions inherent in the program to rehabilitate hospitals, health centers, and pharmacies, as well as the laboratory assistance program, which calls for differentiating among first, second, and third-level laboratories in communal, provincial, and national hospitals.

With regard to the refurbishing of Americo Boavida Hospital, which is considered to be the country's biggest, Flavio Fernandes went on to state that every effort is being made to put it into operation beginning the first half of the coming year. In a related matter, he stressed that the equipment to be installed in this hospital will be supplied by an Italian company and will be budgeted at \$5.5 million.

Later on, he would go on to say that, within the scope of this project, Cabinda Hospital has already been refurbished. The only thing lacking is the equipment, which has already been ordered.

Meanwhile, \$300,000 has been offered by Conoco for the rehabilitation of Ambriz Hospital.

It should be recalled that the central hospitals in Huila, Huambo, Malanje, Mbanza Congo, and Ondjiva (Cunene) are likewise included in this rehabilitation program. In Luanda, the Sanatorium Hospital, the Psychiatric Hospital, the Lucrecia Paim Maternity Hospital, etc., are included.

According to Minister Flavio Fernandes, the lack of hospitals at the municipal level has been complicating all the work in the central hospitals. Within this scope, and with the cooperation of the European Economic Community (EEC), a hospital will be built in the municipality of Cazenga, and a proposal to build another one in the municipality of Zambizanga is under study.

Concerning the construction timetable for pharmaceutical production plants, that member of the government went on to say that, in spite of the delay registered in the construction work on the Luanda factory, this factory is planning to start production beginning on 31 July of the coming year, and the factory in Benguela on 31 August. However, the laying of the first stone for the construction of the factory in the province of Malanje is scheduled for this coming January.

As for the training of cadres in the sector, it would seem that things are not going very well, according to the explanation of Dr. Flavio Fernandes, as he stated that "we should have taken advantage of the time when the country had extensive Cuban cooperation."

In other matters, he deemed it necessary to create specializations for technicians in more precise areas in the country. As an example, Flavio Fernandes cited the existence of just two Angolans trained in the areas of rehabilitation and orthopedics, respectively, when in the country quite a few accidents have been recorded and there is a high number of crippled people.

Another example pointed to by that official had to do with the area of neurology, a specialty that presently only five hospitals in the country are in a position to develop. This field has just two technicians and by the year 2005 there are plans to train eight technicians.

As one of the areas with the greatest problems in the sector, Flavio Fernandes pointed to the area of mother-infant health. An assistance program will be set up in this field soon, as well as one for the physically handicapped, from the Luanda rehabilitation centers to the peripheral centers.

With regard to medical assistance abroad, he went on to say that there is a bill, Decree 3/90, which has already been worked out and is now awaiting final approval, which provides guidelines concerning under what conditions people can travel outside the country to get treatment.

In the minister's opinion, with the rehabilitation of all the hospitals in the country, traveling to other countries for medical treatment will taper off. According to the minister of health, some \$5 million was spent in the current year to send patients abroad.

Yet another matter broached by the minister of health was the reform of the health [program] in Angola and, in his opinion, it is necessary to work out before anything else a policy of alliance, an activity that is now carried

out by religious organizations. But Flavio Fernandes felt that it would be preferable for this reform to be developed by companies.

With regard to private clinics, the minister of health stated that a commission has already been created to study the matter, and that its proposals will be presented to the government in the first half of the coming year.

* Official Speaks at Mbanza Military Zone

91AF0557H Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Mbanza Congo—The first term of combat and political training of the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] was officially opened in the Mbanza Congo military zone, in a ceremony led by Jose Sebastiao Vieira, member of the Party Central Committee.

On that occasion, the leader stressed the need to keep the government troops in a state of combat readiness, given the stubborn determination of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and its leaders to continue its war of destabilization in the country.

Vieira also explained the efforts undertaken by the party and the Angolan Government to move toward a multiparty political system.

He acknowledged that, with the multiparty system, the armed warfare should be replaced by a war of words, in a constructive and patriotic spirit that will contribute to the development of the country, which has been devastated for so long by the war of destruction.

In Benguela, Lieutenant Colonel Nascimento Vaz, commander of the Benguela military zone, urged that the troops be better trained to meet the current demands of the country.

The officer, who was speaking on the occasion of the official opening of this year's term of combat and political training, defended the need to introduce effective methods of moral and military training this year.

According to Nascimento Vaz, during the 1990 combat training term it was observed that the soldiers in that military zone did not have an adequate grasp of political matters and that no firm measures were being taken to eliminate the causes of this lack of knowledge.

"The UNITA is just an ambitious gang that is trying to take power in Angola by force of arms," a soldier said when he read the pledge of honor of the troops in the Benguela military zone.

The message also expresses the readiness of the FAPLA to assume its responsibility to conduct combat missions this year, "so as not to allow the actions of the enemies of peace to go unpunished."

The ceremony ended with a musical-cultural performance featuring a local group, the "Explosivos", a karate demonstration, and an exposition of military techniques and specialties.

* Sumbe Faces Deteriorating Infrastructure

91AF0522D Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 20 Dec 90 p 2

[Article by our correspondent Anselmo Angelo]

[Text] Sumbe—Kwanza-Sul Province is experiencing a difficult period with regard to the performance of basic health services due to the increasing desertion of the personnel associated with the Provincial Directorate of Community Services [DPSC], according to its director, Pascoal Cafaiia in an interview with JORNAL DE ANGOLA.

Those employees are abandoning their jobs to devote themselves to obscure undertakings which will give them more income. The major reason for those desertions is miserable social conditions and low wages as well as abuses of the city residents with regard to the work which they are performing.

In addition to those difficulties of a human nature, others of a material nature add to the precarious work conditions being experienced by the Kwanza-Sul Provincial Directorate. The lack of vehicles to transport garbage, further exacerbated by bottlenecks involving its users, and the lack of spare parts for many of the vehicles which are out of service, are now the directorate's major concern.

Pascoal Cafaiia, who was comparing the former district council chambers with previous ones under criticism, asserted that in the past he was accustomed to seeing the former chambers equipped with all vehicles available for carrying out every type of work assigned to them; but that now, on the contrary, this is no longer the case. He considers that an immediate solution is needed requiring the combined efforts of everyone.

A methodological consultation held with the Council of Ministers and the provincial commissioners revealed that the work could be improved if everyone's efforts were combined. And the council expressed satisfaction with the creation of the portfolio of deputy provincial commissioner for questions of a community nature. Despite this, our requirements were not satisfied by the top governmental organization in the province, the commissioner's office, which in its opinion should participate in the solution of some of the community's problems and facilitate the allocation of certain funds for the import of operational and transportation equipment. "Nevertheless, we are proposing the import of a number of vehicles via the Office of Planning of the Provincial Commissioner [DPCP] and are hoping to obtain them," he said.

A total of seven vehicles were distributed to the province by the central organization with the aim of obviating the precarious work conditions it is facing; three of them on the community level are to go to Sumbe and the other four are awaiting further disposition in Luanda.

Questioned on Sumbe's hygienic conditions, Cafaiia stated that in this city the garbage problem has exceeded human awareness, that is to say, that regardless of the exhortations made to the inhabitants, "our words mean nothing; people continue to do what they cannot understand: they collect garbage and leave it wherever they wish. It is more than obvious that Sumbe is downright filthy."

Unfortunately, even with a garbage truck circulating throughout the city's streets, the inhabitants do not put out the trash at specified times.

On the other hand, illegal constructions and the clearing of century plants or other drought-resistant plants which formerly prevented the mountains from being eroded by the rain and wind have still further complicated the situation in our capital city. Perhaps if the law were enforced, there might be a solution to the problem.

Quite recently, Dr. Sergio, provincial delegate of Kwanza-Sul's Ministry of Health, said that "Sumbe is ill," in characterizing certain aspects of this city established by Kwanza-Sul. On the other hand, he admitted that in Sumbe everyone is hypertensive substantiating their assertions in chats held with local newspaper people on the basis of scientific theories on the sector which he directs. In continuing, Dr. Sergio spoke about the nourishment of the residents, housing conditions, and the location of the city proper which, according to him, is situated at about half-a-meter below sea level, which may be fatal for the city's future.

Local analysts, somewhat pessimistic, predict that Sumbe will disappear in less than 60 years, calling upon the local government to plan a future city which already has a nucleus at its disposal. This is the opinion of the National Petroleum Institute (INP).

Still others believe that the construction of the new district to be known as UNECA [National Union of Central African Students] should have been one of the projects which could broaden the construction concepts of a future city, if it were made into a satellite village, since it is blessed with an adequate supply of water.

We ask ourselves what will become of Kwanza-Sul's mother city in times to come. A city constructed in a hole with the aggravating circumstance of walls built to retain rain water now in such short supply.

We believe that Sumbe is sick in that its illness stems from garbage; but we also believe that the people are beginning to think about the future city of Sumbe, located in an area whose conditions are favorable for fleeing from hypertension.

*** Potential of Trade With Namibia Assessed**

91AF0522B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 4 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by Miguel Filipe]

[Text] Excellent commercial perspectives characterize the present scope of the relations between the government of Huila Province (southern Angola) and the Republic of Namibia: A total of \$1,300,000 was earmarked to be spent beginning with last October on the import of 800 tons of merchandise, particularly food, from that country.

That import, which is occurring for the first time since Namibia achieved its independence, presents an enviable precedent regarding the possibility of minimizing the lack of food which, many times, has been worrying the local population, or at least since the prolonged drought has become an everyday affair.

According to Dinis Marcolino Eurico, Angolan economist and also technical and administrative director of Huila's Wholesale Foodstuffs Company [Egrosbal], the Namibian market offers substantial advantages in that the merchandise reaches the consumer in less than 14 days and, in addition, transportation is not too costly.

This import which Huila is arranging has a number of Namibian associate companies, such as CAMTA International [expansion not given] in Pepe and Wyspeco and two other domestic companies, the Angolan Society of International Commerce (SACILDA) and the OBC [Overseas Business Corporation], whose principal products to be acquired are rice, sugar, oil, milk, and soft drinks.

But Dinis Eurico recognizes that the problem of supplying food to the 86,000 consumers whom the local stores basically control cannot be resolved through imports.

And in justification, he says: "We need at least 200 tons of each basic product per month, each consumer receiving at least 2 kg or units, and even this is insufficient. In simple terms, the rate of imports of merchandise is highly inadequate in the first place.

Secondly, and this is the fundamental difficulty of the local merchants, there is no indication that companies headquartered in Luanda will support the policy of decentralization of the currency exchange ceiling, which inhibits the spirit of local initiative.

According to the technical director of Egrosbal, that factor (the centralization of the foreign exchange ceiling) is what often gave rise to the import of merchandise with weak reception by the customers who were disillusioned with the habits and customs of the people.

On the other hand, Egrosbal itself was indulging in an administrative type of trade, confident in the expectation of merchandise and its import without previously

exploring the market. The distribution plans themselves clashed with the real needs of per capita consumption, justifying a continuous break in the stocks, with the result that merchandise was not imported until after the mercantile fund was depleted. That principle is not compatible with the real administrative norms of the entire process involved in the distribution of goods. For example, the December quantity of goods on hand risked being worse if there had not been recourse to the Namibian market.

Nevertheless, commercial relations between Huila and Namibia involve borders which are not confined to the commercial sector.

In economist Dinis Eurico's interview with the local press, Eurico pointed out the existence in Lubango of imports in the fields of construction, transportation, and the hotel industry, the last of which has never been outstanding.

In the construction sector itself, the unwary observer is impressed by the number of construction projects which, in view of operational weaknesses, have lain dormant in the city's desk drawers for a long time because of lack of funds, construction materials...and also inertia, which is at the root of much of the unsuccessful activity.

When we speak of that sector, we generally refer to the dismal construction project involving one of the city's well-known districts (Nambambe), where the houses were partially erected but are now temporarily abandoned, basically lacking roofs, doors, windows, and other finishing components. A long time has elapsed, and the work does not go on; nor is there any progress.

In this respect, some sectors of the population are considering the possibility that Namibia, through entrepreneurs, might offer an antidote to this situation and launch Lubango into the field of modern architecture and dynamic commercialism, converting it into a cosmopolitan city, for, after all, the city has that capability.

*** Marijuana Cultivation in Benguela Destroyed**

91AF0522E Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 4 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] A source from the Criminal Investigation Police [PIC] in this city disclosed that a marijuana planting covering about half of a hectare was discovered and destroyed in the Vale do Cavaco in Benguela Province.

Geraldo Domingos Victor, proprietor and cultivator, 35, is being detained at the municipal command post of the Popular Police [PP] of this city.

According to Superintendent Antonio Gomes, chief of the PIC in Benguela, Geraldo Domingos was relieved of half-a-ton of that narcotic-producing plant, four cases of infants' milk, and three 50-kg bags of dried marijuana leaves.

The producer and drug trafficker told the police that "the quantity of marijuana that he possessed was to be used to treat his livestock," while witnesses said that the drug was to be used to purchase a truck.

The production, consumption, and trafficking of drugs, particularly marijuana, have been of concern to the local police who consider marijuana one of the principal causes of the rise in crime being experienced in Benguela Province.

Antonio Gomes stated that of the 39 cases connected with the production, trafficking, and consumption of marijuana, 24 ended up in convictions by the police.

The police chief said that the predominant drug in Benguela Province is marijuana, although last year there were a few cases involving morphine and cocaine.

* Number of Refugees Said to Exceed 300,000

91AF0531C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 3 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] About 350,000 Angolans have taken refuge outside the country, the Angolan news agency Angop learned from Jose Martins, national technical director of social affairs. According to the director, the figure refers only to Angolans residing in African countries, specifically Zambia, Namibia, the Congo, and Zaire, which shelters 220,000 refugees. The refugees in Zaire (Shaba) are registered for repatriation. (This was) organized by the Secretariat of State for Social Affairs in conjunction with the UN High Commission for Refugees (HCR). According to Jose Martins, the HCR financed the transportation and reintegration of these refugees in their native provinces.

* Sonangol Director Discusses Current Situation

91AF0521A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 25 Dec 90 p 2

[Interview with Sonangol Director General Joaquim David by JORNAL DE ANGOLA correspondent Manuel Dionisio; Luanda 25 Dec; "Sonangol: the Clever Handling of the Crisis"]

[Text] After the recent sabotage of the Luanda Refinery, Sonangol [National Angolan Fuel Company] became increasingly the center of attention of public opinion. A company whose activity accounts for more than 90 percent of the country's foreign exchange, Sonangol is more than ever a strategic company.

In this interview with Joaquim David, the company's director general, the discussion centered around the company's handling of this situation during the lengthy emergency period and its future conversion into a holding company.

[Dionisio] How does Sonangol expect to handle the situation and carry on its activity subsequent to the sabotage of the refinery?

[David] Basically, there are two paths to follow, either of which should be implemented as soon as possible. That was our viewpoint shortly after the sabotage. One possibility was to relocate the refinery operation as such; the other was to attempt, through imports, to replace the products normally produced by the refinery. We tried both avenues. We particularly noted a worthwhile effort on the part of the Fina [expansion not given] workers (the company operating the refinery) who in a short time placed the refinery in operation at about one-quarter of its capacity and, more recently, just a few days ago, increased that capacity to more than half. Therefore, we must again stress the fact that there was a worthwhile effort made on the part of those workers. It is obvious that emergency measures were taken. I believe that by the end of this week or next week a number of Belgian experts will arrive, specialists in refinery problems, who will evaluate the solutions to be implemented at the refinery, determine the extent of the problems in question, and consider the capability of the refinery to continue to operate within the scope of the solutions to be adopted. But in fact, the refinery is in operation, although not 100 percent. And we are convinced that, if the spare parts arrive within a short time, it will be possible to expand that operation—particularly in view of the gas emanating from the various products, which is not yet being produced but which is expected to be in operation within approximately one month. This is from the viewpoint of the refinery.

Moreover, we had stocks of various products—enough for a few days—and thanks to the efforts of the workers in certain areas we were able to replace certain products; I am speaking principally of the gas which we were able to bottle. Obviously, there is a greater demand for gas at this time of the year; this is characteristic—every year we have the problem of bottling the gas being produced. We are taking steps to increase the number of bottles required, and I believe that within three or four days the director of our gas sector will release a statement to JORNAL DE ANGOLA making this announcement. In my opinion, fuels for motor vehicles, as well as for aviation, specifically gasoline, have never experienced a critical situation. It was possible to maintain a normal supply, despite the refinery problem. Obviously, there are a few concrete problems relating to electrical power. Those problems, we might say, are chronic.

As in the case of gasoline, other kinds of fuel were placed on the market, and we have reason to believe that both the Sonangol and Fina workers deserve credit for having minimized the effects of the sabotage on the people.

[Dionisio] It appears that there was a problem involving JORNAL DE ANGOLA. Somewhat inaccurate information was given concerning the supply of fuel to TAAG [Angolan Airlines]. This happened a few days ago. Would you like to clarify this matter?

[David] Basically, there was an omission in the information obtained by JORNAL DE ANGOLA. However, we had an opportunity to speak of this omission in advance.

In the afternoon of 15 December, there were three or four hours during which no fuel was supplied to TAAG, because our quality-control man had doubts about the parameters of the aviation fuel. As you know, the aviation industry has a certain amount of responsibility; it is an activity which we could consider somewhat at risk, using ordinary terminology; and we are responsible for the quality of the fuel which we supply to the aviation sector.

Our quality-control department was recently revamped; the technicians are relatively young, but, despite this, there was evidence of doubt and, for this reason, orders were given to suspend shipment of the fuel, although more than 1,000 tons of the product had already been shipped. After a series of chemical analyses, it was ascertained that the product could be used. Shipments were then resumed the following day and thereafter, so that the movement of that product became normal.

[Dionisio] Inasmuch as there is no aviation-fuel crisis, Sonangol is now able to maintain an adequate supply in accordance with the ceiling imposed by TAAG.

[David] Affirmative. We agreed upon a minimum ceiling with TAAG and are now able to make normal shipments.

[Dionisio] Returning to the subject of greatest concern to the people at this time of the year, what is the situation concerning gas?

[David] To be precise, the situation is the following: we managed to hire a navigational company—one which transports gas—to send a ship to Angola. The vessel arrived in time to avoid any breaks in the gas lines and this happened shortly after the sabotage of the refinery. Perhaps it is not too much to say that gas was the most critical problem facing the company, for, when the sabotage occurred, we had stock for only seven days in Luanda; and it was possible to have the vessel tied up in Luanda prior to that time. The unloading was delayed inasmuch as one of the lines normally used to ship the gas from the vessel to our facilities was unfortunately damaged during the sabotage; the damage involved welding the gas line in question, a very dangerous job requiring degasification of the line and resulting in a two-day delay. It is an operation which must be made with great care inasmuch as it involves considerable danger if the welding is done with gas at the premises in question.

This decreased the filling of the bottles by 50 percent during a period of two days; but our employees worked two consecutive weekends in order to catch up with the approximate level of production which would have been achieved if the sabotage had not occurred. The vessel will remain here in Angola, and we shall extract the gas which is normally exported, Cabinda gas, using whatever quantity is required. Inasmuch as the refinery will not be producing gas at this time, the gas will be produced in Cabinda, a gas which we normally export to Brazil; it is our intention to cease or decrease that export and have

the vessel make the circuit involving Luanda-Cabinda-Lobito-Namibe, etc., for whatever time is necessary. If there is no crisis, there will be no problems involving a gas shortage.

With regard to the bottles themselves, we are not satisfied with the number on hand. We have bottles which are more than 20 years old and many of them do not pass our resistance tests, presenting obvious danger from potential disasters in the home. Last year and again this year a number of bottles were taken out of circulation, precisely because they did not meet our safety standards. In addition to this we have serious transportation problems in that many people are forced to tug or roll the heavy bottles great distances on the ground in attempting to obtain the gas. And this also damages the bottles. We have been attempting to remedy this situation, and, fortunately, about a week ago the minister of planning issued a communique giving a specific target date for the supply of additional bottles during the first quarter of the new year in accordance with the supplier's capabilities. We are speaking of about 300,000 gas-containing bottles, which will require considerable time. Engineer Vasconcelos maintains that this will amount to about 30,000 bottles per month. However, beginning with the third month of this year we shall gradually be able to increase the supply of the bottles in question, and we believe that this will minimize many of our problems.

A short time ago, we inaugurated a gas installation in Cabinda; and shortly thereafter we had a meeting with the Soyo [expansion unknown] workers giving us the distinct impression that there will be gas but that we shall need more bottles to contain that product and not run the risk of further problems of that nature.

[Dionisio] And the retail-gas network is acceptable? Is it capable of answering the needs of the consumer on the one hand and Sonangol's gas distribution on the other? Or would it eventually be necessary to meddle in that area?

[David] I shall give you a general opinion. The retail network is not the ideal, nor would we want it to be. With regard to Luanda, the network is currently a failure in that there are not enough bottles for the people's requirements, and the people in turn do not have enough confidence to get rid of some of the empty bottles on hand. In fact, all families have a number of bottles in their homes which they previously obtained. What happens is that, if they empty a bottle every 15 days, they have five or six empty bottles in their homes not serving any purpose, and this causes considerable inconvenience inasmuch as the rotation of the bottles is quite limited.

I am convinced that with more bottles it will be possible to regain the people's confidence and keep them from having so many bottles sitting idly by in their homes.

Moreover, the transportation problems, although not precisely on an equal footing, are common to Luanda and the rest of the country. On the national level we have

reason to complain with regard to the matter of distribution. The Luanda question is closely related to the military situation. We lost many means of transportation because of the military situation, and some of our drivers could even be considered heroes, having survived two, three or more ambushes outside of Luanda and yet continuing to drive their vehicles.

[Dionisio] I would like for you to speak about the lubricant sector and also fuels for the automotive sector and ships.

[David] We had to import gasoline. Fortunately, the stocks for other kinds of fuel were acceptable. Once more we encountered transportation problems; but the biggest problem of all—one which has been chronic this year—has been the lack of electrical power. This year our generators worked harder than they had ever worked throughout their entire life. We still have problems involving breakdowns on the part of the generators, but the stock situation is stable. We have the situation under control with regard to gasoline, diesel fuel, and fuel for the turbines; our only major problem was the need to change the type of fuel.

But not even this was necessary. We managed to overcome the crisis and retain the same kind of fuel.

Prior to the sabotage, the stocks were plentiful, and if we had not produced any more, we would have had problems. The supply of fuel in terms of stocks is stable.

[Dionisio] As a result of the cuts in electrical power and the damage inflicted by the sabotage, Sonangol experienced a state of virtual emergency this year. Has it been difficult to manage the company during this time of crisis?

[David] In my opinion differences in companies show up in times of crisis. A company must be capable of carrying out its responsibilities during abnormal situations, and some companies are successful in overcoming such predicaments.

We initially planned to coordinate our efforts with those of the Luanda Electric Power Company [EDEL] to determine which areas of the city needed the most power and locate the few generators we still have in operation accordingly (for more than 50 percent are now broken down in areas where power is lacking). It is not always possible, due to abnormal situations, important developments, situations which at times force a company to change its plans, to obtain power where no generators exist.

Lubricants were not affected by the sabotage. The system of mixing and manufacturing lubricants is handled outside the refinery, and as a result they were not sacrificed. In any case, we are content with the question of the lubricants; the principal problem now remaining is the containers. For some time now we have been weighing the possibility of having one of the city's container companies provide us with smaller drums made right on

the spot. Until now, we have had 20-liter drums for our lubricants, and this has resulted in enormous waste.

Some of our directors are currently meeting and negotiating with companies in Luanda. I would not like to make promises unless I felt that I could live up to them. But we are going to do our very best, over the short term, to provide smaller containers which will help resolve our lubricant-distribution problem. And we expect to increase production by the end of this year by replacing an old boiler with a new one.

We also have a bulk-distribution system designed to supply certain customers with 5,000-liter tanks.

[Dionisio] How is the production of crude coming along?

[David] Generally speaking, our production increased during the course of the year. Meanwhile, last year we made a number of discoveries in Cabinda, in block 2, which is operated by Texaco; and in block 3 by ELF [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France], and we are therefore viewing the future with optimism.

But much still remains to be done. As you know, with regard to oil, there is a borderline activity which few companies are capable of exploring—namely, ocean drilling at great depths, 500 or 600 meters deep or more; it is an activity which requires advanced and rather expensive technology. We have had expressions of interest by many companies. And we are preparing a strategy which we hope will help implement our activity in those deep waters. In one word, the current level of production no longer appears to be acceptable...in order to increase those levels of production over the short term we need further exploratory activity to enable us to discover new reserves to replace the current ones.

[Dionisio] You spoke some time ago of the need to arrange financing by the various partners; have you had difficulty in coming up with the necessary funds?

[David] Let us consider the various aspects of that question. Capital exists in the world. But we have our bosses, and it is dangerous to accept any capital at any price. To give you a definite answer to this question, we have offers of capital and are negotiating along this line; if the offers are considered reasonable by our banking authorities, we may or may not accept. Perhaps that is one of the reasons we delayed accepting some of the offers proposed. In one word, capital exists, but it is not easy to obtain it under conditions which we consider advantageous to Angola.

[Dionisio] Another question concerns the current process of restructuring the company. Would you care to comment on that aspect?

[David] Yes, and I shall summarize, for it is a rather vast process. We have already made considerable progress. Perhaps in the next few months we shall make a presentation covering the restructuring process, and we shall again have the pleasure of meeting with the news media.

We have contacts with various companies, some with decades of experience and others with as much as 100 years of experience; and, fortunately or unfortunately, we are the concessionary company in Angola, the national company, and at times we are obliged to deal with companies which have greater development and more technological capability than we do. And we feel that through the contacts with these companies, we have the possibility of raising the level of our organization, the level of Sonangol's capability. We have a number of our own technicians who have either worked a long time in conjunction with those companies or who have originated from those companies. And a short time ago, working with the SEF [Economic and Financial Reorganization] plan and, more recently, with the Action Plan [AP], we realized the need to give a more prompt response to the solicitations we received and hence initiated the restructuring program.

Basically, we would like to decentralize, to become more operational, to gain more responsibility for our decisions. We have already made a diagnosis of the company, determining its weak and strong points. We divided the company's workers into various groups to deal with specific subjects. Thus, from memory I would say that we have a group assigned to the restructuring of the distribution activity (possible creation of a subsidiary distribution company) which would have at least operational independence, advantageous from the operational viewpoint of the mother company; another group which would handle the aviation sector; and still another to deal with the petroleum sector, perhaps the second and third forming a subsidiary company with the same type of independence as that given to the distribution group. With another group we are attempting to establish a career for the workers. One of the aspects which is rather important in our activity, and not just in Sonangol, is that of supporting the skilled people, their personal careers. That which determines their true personalities; what the future holds in store if they decide to pursue their chosen career. The true attributes of an individual, after working 10 years in a company, in relation to an individual who is just now getting started. We are speaking of an individual who possesses this kind of capability, this kind of willingness to be of service, this kind of skill in relation to others. This is a national problem. People tend to be greedy in their quest for management positions, positions which will help to improve their particular situation. What we want here in the company is for the skilled employees to devote themselves to the aspects of concrete analysis, research, etc. In this manner we have prepared a plan for vocational careers within the company.

Let us consider other matters, such as the marketing of crude oil, the handling of affairs between our domestic offices and the management of our foreign-marketing organization, our office in London, the kind of documentation required, and the kind of information we need; these are all matters of considerable importance. It appears that the question of the sale of oil has its specific

parameters, its complexities in terms of the market, and its possibilities. The truth is that we do not have that type of personnel or, in any case, the number of people that we would like to see exhibit that degree of capability, as required by the market.

We have organization charts already prepared, but we need people capable of filling the positions in question, and for this we need the necessary means. One of the most difficult questions is that of communications. Despite having good relations with members of EPTEL [Public Communications Company], telephones, telexes, and fax machines, we still have some deficiencies. We are even convinced that we have a certain amount of congestion in the so-called traditional circuits. So that even with the facilities which the company kindly gives us, we have a number of difficulties. And at times this kind of activity demands on-the-spot decisions.

[Dionisio] When will the conversion of Sonangol into a holding company become a reality?

[David] Through forgetfulness I skipped over an important question, that of an operational company. We would also like to initiate a small activity relating to oil production. As you know, three years ago we made an attempt to establish the ESPA [expansion not given]; unfortunately, with the ESPA we drilled only nine to 11 wells in block 4 and, as it occurred with block 1, we found no large-scale reservoirs...and it is our intention to establish the exploratory company in this connection, with the development of one or two of these oil fields.

We are in an advanced state in our negotiations aimed at initiating the activity of this company. Perhaps this is the company which will find itself allied with the aviation company, whose establishment was closer to reality. And basically, to answer your last question, we only need to create one of those subsidiaries.

I am of the opinion that in the first half of next year, a time which I consider reasonable for obtaining the necessary legal authorization, we shall be able to put one or two subsidiary companies into operation and that will be clear proof that Sonangol is now established as a holding company.

[Dionisio] With regard to the emergency situation which Sonangol has been experiencing in the country in the past few months, there is another serious situation: the Persian Gulf crisis. How is this crisis being reflected in the company's activity?

[David] The Gulf crisis is being reflected principally through the marketing sector. Basically, this crisis is geographically located in a part of the world which is quite important from the standpoint of volume of oil production. We are speaking of Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. This resulted in a certain degree of panic in the oil market. It was feared that Saudi Arabia, for military reasons, might be prevented from putting oil back on the market. The OPEC [Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries] nations in particular managed to

restore production in Iraq and Kuwait, some being through investments with little effort, so that there is no real oil shortage in the world. The only reason that prices rose to levels never before reached (first to \$40 and then, for a time, to levels of \$30 to \$40) is purely and simply the need felt by certain countries to replenish their stocks to prevent Saudi Arabia from being unable to achieve its quota in the world supply of oil as a consequence of the military crisis.

This eventually created problems, problems for the exporting countries due to uncertain prices, and planning problems. Prices which were originally between \$17 and \$18 rose to double that amount. Therefore, for a country which lives essentially on oil production income doubled; but production also rose, during a certain period, to half or less than half of what it was, returning to its original levels. It might return to a more probable intermediate value. But this undoubtedly creates difficulties in planning. It is not possible to plan during such a situation.

* Antismuggling Campaign Under Way

91AF0465H Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 16

[Text] The operating group of the Commission Against Theft and Smuggling has arrested Cipriana Cassinda, Bibiana Paulo Equiqui, Josefina Combata, Laudo Pascoal, Isabel Joao Soba, and Rosa Chiussula for the crime of smuggling 500 pieces of diverse fabrics. JORNAL DE ANGOLA has learned from that organization.

Miguel Raimundo dos Santos, Jorge Manuel, Goncalves Donga, Manuel Antonio, Antonio Francisco, and Andre Manuel Francisco were also arrested yesterday for the theft of 40 sacks of wheat flour, and are all under the physical protection at the Transapro vehicle parking lot.

And for having received 11 sacks of the same product, Doneta Bonquique, Adelaide Joao Mazuquina, Elisa Antonio, and Esperanca Paulo have been arrested.

Meanwhile, last Thursday the operating group detained Unicargas driver Manuel Jacinto Francisco for participating in the crime of diverting 476 sacks of potatoes destined for Frescangol. Also arrested for the crime of stealing 12,000 meters of various fabrics were four workers from TEXTANG II, among them a pre-testament section chief.

On Tuesday the 4th, Cristovao Antonio and Eduardo Paulo, bar manager and proprietor, respectively, were arrested for the crime of receiving and illegally appropriating goods.

In carrying out these activities the operating group arrested for speculation the proprietors of the "Flor da Baia" restaurant, Joao Manuel de Almeida and Adao Famoso; and for the diversion of 104 bottles of wine

destined for consumers of the "Mucoso" supermarket, Augusto de Carvalho, Fernando Morais, and Joana Manuel Joao were arrested.

Humberto Vieira de Sousa, proprietor of the "Edemar" butcher shop and fish store, was arrested on Saturday the 1st for the crimes of smuggling and voluntarily closing the establishment, having concealed the existence of 39 pieces of meat for sale to the public.

* Electric Power Supply Returns to Huambo

91AF0465G Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by Joaquim Artur]

[Text] Huambo (from our delegation)—The cities of Huambo and Caala have benefitted for almost one month from electricity from the Benfica thermoelectric plant in this city, which is an alternative to the Lomaum hydroelectric complex destroyed by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorists.

This possibility has become a reality thanks to the guarantee of a regular supply of fuel (diesel) by air and by trucks from Sonangol [National Fuel Company], private providers and Defense and Central Front organizations.

According to sources from the Huambo Provincial Energy Delegation, there are guarantees that agreements with transporters will be honored, making it possible to keep the two cities permanently lit and revitalize the industrial sector.

In order to provide this 24-hour service, the province spends 1,419,000 new kwanzas per day, equivalent to 43,000 liters, the daily consumption capacity of the Benfica thermoelectric plant. These expenses do not include the necessary transport costs.

The City of Huambo previously benefited from stopgap measures, resolving the problem of interrupted energy through small groups of generators mounted in various firms and installations of high importance. The lack of fuel resulting from diminished transport capacity vastly reduced the activity of these generators, which in addition represented an uncoordinated system and wasted more fuel.

The new system integrating all the efforts and means of transport in one single objective is rational, since Sonangol has never disposed of sufficient capacity to be able to supply the 76 groups of generators existing in the city, nor has technical assistance for this equipment been assured.

Meanwhile, the affiliate of the National Electric Company in Huambo controls 13,000 consumers and its average monthly revenue is some 6 million. It employs a workforce of 434 workers who, according to the authorities, are guaranteed reasonable social amenities such as transport and monthly food rations, some coming from the enterprise's agricultural stocks.

The major impediment to its activities is the obsolete condition of the electrical network, after more than 40 years of use. The province lacks high-tension cables to replace the existing cables. The network is currently surviving on piecemeal measures.

*** Official Guarantees Fuel for Airlines**

91AF0465F Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] The Angolan Air Company (TAAG) has had its supply of fuel to its airplanes guaranteed for normal routes, despite some restrictions that will have to be applied. National Fuel Company (Sonangol) Sales Director Pedro Gomes told ANGOP [Angolan Press Agency] Monday that the firm will supply TAAG daily with a sufficient quantity of fuel, which he did not specify, until the situation created through the shutdown of the Luanda refinery is resolved.

*** Benguela Drought Victims Receive Food Aid**

91AF0557B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 9 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Benguela—About 846 tons of foodstuffs and various seeds were distributed in 1990 to the drought victims of Caimbambo Municipio, Albino Chateia, municipal coordinator of emergency aid to drought victims, reported Monday in this city.

The official told the Angolan news agency Angop that the food and seed benefited 51,312 victims of the drought that has already dragged on for four years.

Albino Chateia said that 15,000 of the 30,000 inhabitants of the region are still seriously in need of food.

He stressed that during the food crisis provoked by the drought, more than 1,718 people had died in that municipio, but now there is some expectation of a good harvest.

Meanwhile, there was a ceremony yesterday at the Benguela University Center, in honor of the National Day of Culture, celebrated yesterday.

The program celebrating the event began yesterday with a cultural exposition, followed by recreational activities in the cultural centers of Benguela City.

*** Kwanza-Norte Harvest Figures Announced**

91AF0465E Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] More than 234 tons of diverse products have resulted from the harvests of the growing season that ended in September in the community of Cazenga (Kwanza-Norte). In that locality, vegetables, fruits, and cereals are produced, and according to Cazengo Agrarian Development Station (EDA) Director Simao Mucano, this harvest surpasses the one of 1988-89. Our source

added that the organization for which he is responsible provided seeds and technical support to the farmers working in the area.

*** Seventy Arrested for Diamond Smuggling**

91AF0465D Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Since the beginning of the year, 266 diamonds have been seized from 70 people in Lunda-Sul Province, Provincial State Security Delegate Captain Antonio Guebi announced last week. According to Antonio Guebi, who spoke at a political act commemorating the 15th anniversary of the creation of the Ministry of State Security, the 70 individuals are being held in Saurimo, although he did not reveal their nationalities. That official praised the cadres of his Ministry who have fallen in missions of sovereignty and lauded the people's participation in the struggle against corruption and other evils afflicting society.

*** France Finances Cotton Growing in Kwanza-Sul**

91AF0465C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Sumbe—The French Central Bank for Cooperation has made available \$27 million for the purchase of tractors, vehicles and other goods to be used in the cultivation of cotton in the municipalities of Porto Amboim and Sumbebe.

According to a report presented to the third national meeting of the coordinating council of the cotton program, which took place last week in Porto Amboim, the money may also be used for the construction of a residential center for officials involved in the program, training of officials, technical assistance and the acquisition of other agricultural machinery.

The document points out that the drought afflicting the central and southern regions of the country has caused damage valued at 35,174,330 new kwanzas, with another 34 million new kwanzas lost in the preparation of the land, while 936,080 new kwanzas were uselessly spent in sowing.

With the appearance of the first measurable precipitation, the Ministry of Agriculture [Minagri] intends to prepare 11,459 hectares of land in the cotton-producing zones, of which 5,150 hectares are in the municipalities of Porto Amboim and Sumbe (Kwanza-Sul).

The report states that if that figure is achieved, the harvest could reach 6,800 tons of raw cotton, worth 306 million new kwanzas.

To cover the food needs of the peasants in the cotton-growing areas, Minagri will also prepare 6,000 hectares of land for the cultivation of millet, the population's staple crop.

*** 200,000 Refugees Reportedly in Zaire**

91AF0465B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Two hundred thousand Angolan refugees are currently in Zaire, as well as 70,000 Ugandans and 12,000 Rwandans.

These figures were released Tuesday in Kinshasa by Regional United Nations High Commission on Refugees (HCR) Representative El Hadj Isaka, at a press conference.

The official noted on that occasion that Zaire hosts a total of 350,000 refugees, and he announced that his organization will shortly publish precise statistics on the Rwandan refugees in collaboration with the Zairan Government.

In that respect, he noted that confusion was created by the 1972 law which granted Zairan citizenship to Rwandans living in Zaire before 1959, and the 1982 law that reconsidered granting citizenship to these refugees.

This latter law makes it difficult to count the population living in the regions of Norte-Kivu where the greatest concentration of Rwandan refugees is located, and recently a deputy addressed that issue within the framework of the decentralization of Zairan territory.

It is to be emphasized that Zaire has never formulated a law granting citizenship to other refugees installed on its territory. Refugees and immigrants maintain their citizenship of origin despite living for prolonged periods of time in this central African country.

*** Cabinda Importing Fuel From Congo**

91AF0465A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Cabinda (from our delegation)—Cabinda Province is currently facing great difficulties in supplying fuel, particularly gasoline, to industry and the general population, having to resort to imports from Ponta Negra (Peoples Republic of the Congo).

According to Provincial Energy and Petroleum Delegate Engineer Zacarias Mavungo, contacted by JORNAL DE ANGOLA, this situation is primarily the result of the breakdown of the vessel "Lobito Primeiro," which transports the aforementioned fuel from Luanda to Cabinda.

As an alternative, in order to alleviate the difficulty of supplying gasoline to the population, the province has finally resorted to "Hidro-Congo."

"In fact, resorting to "Hidro-Congo" required significant financial resources. Despite its disadvantages, this contract will continue, given that we cannot currently receive gasoline from Luanda or Soyo. For that reason, we urge that the "Lobito Primeiro" be returned to

operation and that the fuel transport fleet in the province be improved, so as to put an end to our dependence on "Hidro-Congo," he said.

With respect to gasoline, we have learned that Cabinda does not face any difficulties in that area, since the province is directly supplied from the Cabgoc refinery.

With respect to heating oil, although the levels are still a little low, supply has improved to some degree compared to prior years.

According to Zacarias Mavungo, the problem of supplying fuel to the population will be completely resolved when the seaport terminal project approved more than five years ago is implemented in the province.

We learned in our interview that some steps have already been taken for implementing the aforementioned project, specifically the localization of the zone where the future terminal's tanks will be installed, pending resolution of some bureaucratic problems of a financial nature that still exist.

The terminal, including a highly sophisticated pump system, will include tanks for storing gasoline, diesel fuel, oil and natural gas, with capacity of more than 15,000 cubic meters each, and its construction, the cost of which has not been divulged, has been assigned to the Italian firm STIL.

*** Hospital in Malanje Lacks Medicine, Equipment**

91AF0557G Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 8 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Malanje (from our bureau)—The hospital in the Quessua sector, founded in that locale by an American missionary in 1922, is one of the best in existence in Malanje Province and has always played an important role in providing health care and medicine to the population.

Located 6 km from Malanje City, the hospital has always belonged to the mission and currently receives support, both in terms of medicines and the necessary equipment, from a Norwegian religious institution, while the technical staff is composed of Angolans connected with the Ministry of Health.

The hospital covers 500 square meters. It has a 36-bed capacity and can treat 100 outpatients with such ailments as malaria, diarrhea, tuberculosis, anemia, and whooping cough, among others.

It also has an isolation unit 800 meters away [from the main building], for the treatment of infectious-contagious diseases, with eight houses, two of which are dormitories for families and friends of the patients. It has two examining rooms, a maternity unit, an operating room, a maternal-infant area, a pediatric unit, an ophthalmology unit, an internal and outpatient pharmacy, and a delivery room.

The hospital complex, which is of vital importance to the life of the province, is currently experiencing some problems and is asking for special attention from the Health Ministry.

The JORNAL DE ANGOLA correspondent contacted Domingos Vitoriano, one of the hospital's directors, who reported that from January to November of last year, the hospital treated 420,403 patients from several parts of the province, for a variety of epidemic diseases.

The number of patients is explained by the fact that the hospital center has never had a major problem with a shortage of medicines, because it is supported by a Norwegian religious institution.

At the moment, however, it is experiencing a shortage of medicines, because a container that was carrying various medicines and other equipment needed to complete the remodeling of its physical plant was burned by the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] on 2 September on the Luanda-Malanje rail line.

Vitoriano said the monetary loss in terms of foreign exchange was incalculable; it would ordinarily have sustained the hospital for more than four years.

Health Ministry Promise Not Kept

For the second time, a promise by Health Minister Flavio Fernandes, made over seven months ago in a meeting with the hospital workers during one of his visits to Quessua, has not been fulfilled.

Asked about the X-ray equipment, which has been out of order for more than five years, our interviewee said he had lost confidence in the promise made by the minister, who had announced in that same meeting with the workers that \$20,000 would be allocated for the purchase of this equipment, to overcome the need.

According to Joao Vitoriano, this was the second time the promise was made to the hospital. The first was four years ago, when Fernandes was vice minister of health.

Traditional Midwives

Last year more than 30 traditional midwives from 20 hamlets and villages in the province attended refresher courses; following this training, they were provided with cartons of first aid materials and the necessary instruments to handle cases that might come up.

Rita Simao Gimao Gregorio, who administered the course, told our correspondent that the refresher courses had been offered to experienced women over 30, who were divided into groups of 10 for each session of the 15-day course.

An apparatus for internal examination of the patients at the Quessua hospital is not in use because no manual came with it.

The equipment, which is of vital importance, was donated by a Norwegian missionary institution. It bears

the trademark ELIN .075mm BB. Reference No. 290738; the country of manufacture is unknown.

According to Joao Vitoriano, the ophthalmology section at the Quessua hospital is not in service for want of a physician; requests to the Provincial Office of the Health Ministry have not been answered.

Another troubling aspect is the lack of transport means, both for those who need to come to the hospital for treatment and for its 36 employees. Considering the distance that must be traveled to reach the hospital, it is urgent that someone in authority come up with a solution to the problem.

* Infant Mortality Rate Up at Huila Hospital

91AF0557C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 9 Jan 91 p 2

[text] Lubango—The infant mortality rate at the Pioneiro Zeca pediatric hospital in Lubango (Huila Province) rose by 15 deaths in 1990. Andre Roque Lima, director of the hospital center, informed the Angolan news agency Angop.

According to the official, the hospital recorded 567 deaths among 41,564 out-patient and in-patient consultations in 1989. In 1990, the number rose to 582 deaths, among 45,026 patients.

Thus the mortality rate in 1990 was 23 percent, as against 22.68 percent in 1989. [Figures as published] The reasons for the morbidity-mortality at the Pioneiro Zeca hospital lay in the deterioration of basic sanitary conditions at the hospital.

Also contributing to the high mortality rate were the inadequate health education of the public, the poor resistance of the children, most of whom were war refugees, and some cases of poisoning with traditional medicines.

Because of the shortage of medicines in Huila Province, people are resorting to the traditional medicines or to home remedies, and by the time they seek treatment at the hospital there is almost no possibility of saving the patient, he said.

The shortage of technical and material resources makes it impossible for the pediatric hospital to provide adequate treatment for the patients who are interned there, as well as the large number of out-patients who turn up there every day because it is the only specialized hospital in the region.

Although the hospital center has four physicians, including general practitioners and pediatricians, 10 specialized nurses and basic technicians in general nursing, the infant mortality rate will continue to rise significantly if people do not improve their standards of hygiene, the director said.

* Bank Employees Tried for Embezzlement

91AF0557C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 9 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by Lucas Africano: "BNA Employees Embezzle More Than 37 Million New Kwanzas"]

[Text] Luanda—Thirteen Angolan citizens are on trial in the Moxico District Court: namely, Daniel Capula Canhica, Inacio Lumai, Joao Antonio, Joao Baptista Sabino, Lucas Xavier Segunda, Samuel Joaquim Romano, Ezequiel Fernando Viame, Bartolomeu Cassuebe Fonseca, Carlos Lopes Manuel Chivavulo, Francisco Jose Franco, Manecas Henrique, Alberto Jonas, and Pedro Guiva.

According to the document released by the court to the local news media, the first seven defendants were civil servants assigned to the Luanda branch of the National Bank of Angola [BNA]. Among other duties, they were responsible for taking in bank deposits, making payments on checks, and verifying, receiving, and handling deposit slips, performing all operations that were assigned to them. However, on an unspecified day in September 1989, it was discovered that for about three months the first six [as published] defendants had been embezzling large sums of money from the banking institution to which they were attached, in dereliction of their duty.

The document of the Moxico District Court adds that said codefendants, specifically the other six defendants in the case, made out false deposit slips in the name of friends and acquaintances, filling in supposed monetary values. They then went through all the operations of verification and credit and entered them into the daily logs as if they were real deposits. Once the banking operations were concluded, they contacted the holders of the bank accounts to which they had made the false deposits and asked them to write various checks on the money that had supposedly been deposited.

Regarding Ezequiel Fernando Viame, who served as provincial director of the local branch of the BNA, the Moxico District Court reported that, because he needed money to cover some personal expenses, in November 1988 he transferred 1.2 million kwanzas to the account of Zequeu Antonio, making out a bank check to Zequeu in that amount, to be paid in Luanda.

On his arrival in Luanda, as directed by Ezequiel Viame, Zequeu Antonio, who was not aware that the transaction was illegal, cashed the check at the central branch of the BNA and went to the Praca da Calemba, where he purchased an undetermined number of cases of beer, which he delivered to one of his drivers for resale on the Luanda-Luena circuit. On learning that his subordinates had reported him for the illegal transfer of 1.2 million kwanzas, which he had pretended was his, in a vain attempt to legitimize his action, he had quickly and desperately issued the documents that he later presented to Zequeu Antonio. Antonio, in turn, naively signed

them without reading them, never realizing that the money belonged to the BNA and was taken illegally.

In general terms, the former bank employees issued a total of 102 phony checks in the amount of 37,122,000 kwanzas; they requisitioned 10 check books, valued at 1,000 new kwanzas, for illicit purposes; 84 checks, amounting to 35,712,000 new kwanzas, were cashed, and only 2,119,000 new kwanzas were recovered.

* Kwanza-Norte Transportation Sector Examined

91AF0557F Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 9 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by Isidoro Natalico: "Transport Sector Looks for Better Days"]

[Text] Ndalatando—The socioeconomic situation in the country, particularly in Kwanza-Norte Province, will remain critical as long as the transport sector, its real backbone, is in a bottleneck. Along with other actions included in the Government Action Program to relaunch the country's production machine, the rehabilitation of the transportation system will have to be a major factor.

The transport sector in Kwanza Norte Province is one of the most privileged in the nation's transport system, since the Luanda Railway crosses it in three strategically located municipalities (Kabamba, Kazengo, and Lucala); it has a branch line which links Kazenga and Alto Golingo municipalities, and national highways that link the coast to the North, South, and East, yet the transportation picture in the province presents a desolate picture.

The railway is almost completely paralyzed, the automotive park is at a standstill, and there has never been any domestic air service. Since the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] destroyed about 1,500 meters of track on the Zenga/Ndalatando branch line about two years ago, only three trains a week have been arriving in Kambambe. Despite this situation, the railway is the primary means of freight and passenger transport for the province and possibly for Malanje.

For example, in the second quarter of 1990 alone, the railway handled 771 tons of various merchandise and 13,684 passengers, and took in 25,622,671 new kwanzas.

In turn, highway transport, defined as essential to the sector, has suffered several consecutive setbacks and is now mired in a severe depression, caused by the constant damage inflicted by the UNITA and also by the abuse of the truck fleet, the shortage of spare parts, and obsolescence, as well as the poor condition of the roads.

Because of such difficulties, only 240 light and heavy trucks, state-owned and private, are operating in the province. Most of these vehicles cannot stand up to long trips, so inter-province transportation is handled by truck fleets from other provinces, notably Transnorte, headquartered in Luanda.

Contrary to expectations, the controversial Public Transport Company [ETP] will remain a state company following the business reorganization.

Of the dozens in the ETP's possession, today there remain only a laughable three vehicles, and they are in an advanced stage of obsolescence. About seven automobiles and a few other vehicles for the transport of grain have been put up for sale to the public, but the truckers are not eager to purchase them because it would be so difficult to put them back in operation. "We expected that we would be offered new trucks, not old ones. Judging by the price of spare parts on the unofficial market," it would cost three times as much to put them in back in operation as it would to buy a new vehicle, complained a prominent local shipper.

For its part, after an economic feasibility study, the failing provincial motor vehicle driving school will be offered up for public bidding, within the framework of the business reorganization. When it was operating in the black, the driving school had more than 10 vehicles of varying age and was training 180 drivers a year, but today it is in a super-crisis. Lacking spare parts, it is training barely 60 drivers a year.

Investments

The situation of the transport sector improved somewhat in 1990, with the granting of some exchange "ceilings," the outfitting of some fleets with new operational trucks, and an apparent drop in the organized theft of technical-material means. For example, the ETP was granted two "ceilings" (\$10,000 and \$50,000) by the Transportation Ministry and by the Provincial Commission of Kwanza-Norte, with the result that at least three of the 15 broken down vehicles could be recovered.

The province received 28 IFA trucks, which it distributed to some companies, to be used in the transportation of coffee and for the emergency rural marketing program. Meanwhile, for a period of 18 months, the Portuguese firm UTIC will work in association with the Manauto-60-UEE company, which is devoted to the technical maintenance of IFA trucks.

According to the terms of the contract, the project is budgeted at \$983,800, which will be spent, among other actions, on the rehabilitation of 100 of the 200 IFA/ROUBUR trucks existing in the region (1988 statistic), as well as the training of specialized cadres.

Stand Nacional Neto, headquartered in Luanda, will place a sales representative in the province, who will make automobile parts available for the other brands of vehicles, particularly the most common makes, such as Volvo, Scania, Daf, Land Rover, Lada, Toyota, Renault, etc. Finally, practically nothing has been done in the area of domestic aviation. For example, the highly publicized initiation of construction on the Karianga airport, which has already received attention at the highest level, has come to nothing. The EKA beer company has been

working for some time on the construction of an air field, which observers say will be completed in 1991.

* Cabinda Port Needs Extensive Repairs

91AF0514B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 27 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by Alberto Coelho: "Construction Work on Port at a Snail's Pace"]

[Text] The transportation of necessities to ATM [expansion not given] for the various economic sectors, farmers' associations, and agricultural cooperatives, is the current "Achilles' heel" in the socioeconomic development of the Province of Cabinda, which, because of its geographical location, has a link with the rest of the country only by air or by sea.

The existing port, which has a lot to do with the province's development, finds itself in an advanced state of disrepair and it does not satisfy current needs, because only coastal ships can dock there; the unloading of deep-water vessels is being done by flatboats.

JORNAL DE ANGOLA paid a visit to the Cabinda Port Company—State Economic Unit—to find out about the current status of the repair work on the dockbridge, whose roadbed is made up of large planks.

The repair work on the dockbridge, which is being handled by the Portuguese company Construcoes Tecnicas, valued at 52,122,000 new kwanzas, or \$1,031,000, which was initially projected to last for a period of nine months, is proceeding at an extremely slow pace as a result of inadequate supplies of wood, which is the main raw material for the project.

The director of the Cabinda Port Company, Alberto Nganzi, spoke about the headway that has already been accomplished in the port repairs, as well as the difficulties encountered in their achievement.

"The repair work at the port of Cabinda has taken a significant step, because up to the present moment more than 50 percent of the work has already been completed. The only difficulty we are facing to complete the work is the shortage of the appropriate types of wood, namely Nkungulo and/or Ngulumazi."

The director explained that these types of wood are rare and that in the areas where they grow in large quantities they are not being harvested, due to the actions of the bandits who are trying to destabilize our country at all costs.

In spite of the fact that the current port is under repair, Cabinda has been asking for another one for a long time.

Questioned about this matter, the provincial director of the port told us that plans for the construction of a deep-water port in Cabinda have existed since 1979, and

that its achievement was based on a program of needs established by the Ministries of Construction, Transportation, and Defense.

Nevertheless, there are currently two trains of thought concerning the location for the construction of the above-mentioned port, either in the municipality of Cabinda or in that of Cacongo.

In accord with the technical-economic study of the localities, the advantages and disadvantages of each of the sites will be identified.

For Alberto Nganzi, "All contacts with Consulmar, the company in charge of carrying out the project, have already been made. The only thing we are waiting for is the collateral security of the documents delivered to the higher courts."

In spite of the deplorable conditions of the dockbridge, the port of Cabinda, in the period between January and October, marketed 22,000 tons of cargo, loaded 57,000 tons, and collected nearly 108 million new kwanzas in these operations.

On this occasion, the subject of our interview lamented the bad behavior of some of his clients who do not cancel the debts they have contracted, thus placing his company often in a difficult financial situation.

"Because of the difficulties that our country is experiencing at the moment, it has not been possible to suspend operations to the debtors, according to Executive Decree No. 2/79 of the Council of Ministers," he said.

Debts contracted with the port of Cabinda are estimated at nearly 299 million new kwanzas.

Concerning the measures taken to improve the organization of the province's port activity and services, our interlocutor said that special attention has been devoted to the recovery of some indispensable equipment which somehow will make it possible to improve the loading and unloading of ships, for, as he said, "the objectives of the company's board of directors are fundamentally aimed at improvements in the provision of services in such a way as to avoid having the ships remain docked at the port for long periods."

During the course of the year, two cranes have been repaired, one 60 tons and the other 16 tons, along with four hoisting arms, a tractor, and a 5-ton crane.

Referring to the difficulties, the director pointed out as the main ones the lack of a water-truck to supply water to navigation, rolling stock, the bad condition of the pavement in the port area, and the fact that the repair work on the dockbridge has not been completed.

Alluding to the projects for the future, Alberto Nganzi stated that he is proposing to repair the pavement in the

port area and the warehouse, to enlarge and improve the company offices, and to acquire one more crane and container-carriers.

With regard to the support given by the appropriate structures to the company, this was deemed by the director to be satisfactory, for, as he stated, "the port has benefitted from two budget-line items earmarked for the acquisition of two new cranes from Japan and for the maintenance of port equipment." The company has 254 workers.

* Difficulties Hamper Bie Construction Sector

91AF0514C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 27 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by Jose Armando: "Restarting Construction Is Urgent Task"]

[Text] The construction industry, which has been very severely affected by the obstacles created by the war, finds itself increasingly unable to achieve a pace compatible with the government's current needs in the Province of Bie, because of the shortage of equipment and sufficient trained cadres.

Many difficulties can be overcome with the rehabilitation of the ceramic works which are currently having their production reduced owing to problems in getting a steady supply of electrical energy, a factor which also extends to the carpentry workshops, which are fulfilling barely 35 percent of their production goals. In addition, they are experiencing a shortage of quality wood.

Another critical situation is being felt in the construction sector, which is struggling with problems in the supplies of cement and iron, which are stored in Luanda and Benguela. For that reason, the construction program of low-cost housing and the completion of several construction projects have been halted.

It should be noted that in this sector we are witnessing the constant departure of workers because the payment of wages is seven months in arrears.

According to Mateus Capata, a delegate of the Ministry of Construction in Bie, this situation, which is being registered just in construction, is the result of the non-payment of debts which have been contracted between the sector and certain companies and organizations, and which have been estimated at 45 million new kwanzas.

An impasse in the area of investment in materials for the recovery of the engineering area is also being reported, as well as for the fostering of the former "JAEAS" [expansion not given], and the recovery of highways and bridges. However, some good news is being reported in the construction materials industry, which soon will acquire several replacement parts, tile presses, and means of transportation.

In addition to five cadres trained in the Soviet Union and Cuba, the construction industry is training young

men under 18 to cover the needs of the sectors of engineering, ceramics, and carpentry. However, Capata recognizes that, regardless of finding a solution to the problem of human resources, a greater problem arises with the shortage of equipment that will not be received in less than 12 months.

The activity of the Ministry of Construction in Bie is mainly concentrated in the areas of construction of bridges and pontoons, the manufacturing of desks for schools, as well as in saving the landing strip at Kuito and the roads that connect Kuito and other nearby localities.

In summary, the problem in the supply of materials, which makes it difficult for the 770 workers in the port provinces to do their work efficiently, the non-payment of certain construction work, and the lack of investments are pointed to as the main difficulties of the construction industry in the province.

* Reporters Investigate Consumer Goods Prices

* Sao Paulo Prices Listed

91AF0533A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Prices continue to rise in Luanda City, most notably for products sold in the parallel markets. It has become "normal" to "go broke" in them, and the culprit in all this is the stomach; heedless of the present adjustment in the price of the delicacies, it never stops complaining.

And not everyone has the stuffed "pockets" to satisfy it.

JORNAL DE ANGOLA went on another "hunt for prices" in one of the "bustling and thronged" [parallel] markets.

This was a few days after the new year began.

Housewives interviewed by JORNAL DE ANGOLA in the Sao Paulo Market once again confirmed that life in the capital is very expensive and it is fair to say that the situation has reverted to the past, i.e., before the currency exchange.

Those who run households say that wages cannot meet the prices in these markets where one can find a little of everything. "It is impossible to live on our wages because, in addition to eating, we need to dress ourselves," they comment.

"To stretch our wages, we have to perform some voodoo gymnastics," they confess.

Here are the prices of some products displayed in the stalls of the Sao Paulo market:

—A bottle of beer, domestic/imported: 350 to 500 Nkz [new kwanzas].

—A jug of red wine: 5,000 Nkz.

—A liter of red wine: 1,000 Nkz.

—A cabbage: 1,500 Nkz.

—A mound of bananas: 1,000 to 2,000 Nkz.

—Two "caxuco" fish: 1,500 Nkz.

—Four bumper fish: 2,000 Nkz.

—A mound of tomatoes: 1,000 Nkz.

—A mound of okra: 200 Nkz.

—A mound of "gingungo": 100 Nkz.

—About ½ kg of peanuts: 1,000 Nkz.

—A liter of palm oil: 1,000 Nkz.

—A tin of flour ("bombo" or cornmeal): 500 Nkz.

—A small mound of "denden" [palmoil fruit]: 100 Nkz.

—A small live chicken: 1,500 to 2,000 Nkz.

—A mound of onions: 500 Nkz.

—A bottle of whiskey: 3,500 to 5,000 Nkz.

—AC [brand of cigarettes]: 1,000 Nkz.

—A mound of kale: 200 Nkz.

—"Donkey" bread: 100 to 150 Nkz.

—Bakery bread: 250 to 300 Nkz.

—Charcoal: 500 Nkz per kg.

—Beans: 350 Nkz.

As may be seen, except for some products, the situation is the same as it was before 1 October; note the price of cigarettes, for example, which are unavailable except on the black market. A good Saturday "funjada" costs almost 20,000 new kwanzas. However, the cost varies according to the number of mouths to feed in the household.

Figure out your budget and have a good weekend.

* Price of Beer Skyrockets

91AF0533B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 6 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by Ramiro Barreira: "Price of Beer and Soft Drinks Skyrockets"]

[Text] Since late December, Angoy Francas, commonly known as "Jumbo," has been putting new prices on some of its products, notably on beer and soft drinks, which have gone from 400 convertible new kwanzas [Nkz] to about 1,000 Nkz. This is an increase of more than 100 percent, without any convincing explanation offered to the huge clientele of this major commercial center in Luanda.

Generally, prices will rise in the same proportion on almost all products, as a result of the new arrivals. But the general unhappiness is really focused on the beer, because—contrary to appearance—beer has been the strongest currency in commercial trade and the demand for it has been the major influence on the inflation rate in the black market, which is the strongest and most competitive market.

Given the situation today, thousands of families in Luanda maintain a certain socioeconomic stability by reselling beer to ensure their daily bread.

"Jumbo" is still one of Luanda's largest beer suppliers and, with the price increase, the demand is sure to decline, because no one wants to pay \$35 for a can of imported beer. Considering that beer accounts for about 70 percent of "Jumbo's" total sales, we may conclude that, at this price, the only buyers will be officials who benefit from state-supported food subsidies, because no one will venture to lay out so much cash. Certainly Angoy Francas could justify the price increases by explaining that it is no longer "duty free" and has begun to pay duties and other customs charges. In the case of beer, according to the tax table for imported merchandise, the rate is 100 percent.

Can this be a protectionist policy to protect the domestic market, when it is common knowledge that our beer industry is far from meeting real needs? It is impossible to protect domestic industry when the market is not saturated and there is a very large gap between supply and demand. Perhaps it would be the most sensible approach if, instead of spending huge amounts of foreign exchange on the purchase of products abroad, we were to produce them in Angola.

However, in addition to being a purely commercial establishment, "Jumbo" has been a source of foreign exchange for the exchange budget and it does not appear that the payment of import duties really brings in enough revenues in new kwanzas to bolster the OGE [General State Budget], at the loss of a strong currency, in this case, the dollar.

Beer undoubtedly remains one of the beverages of choice in Angola, particularly in Luanda. If we set the per capita beer consumption at 90 million some inhabitants, we will see that our country consumes very little in comparison to such countries as England, Denmark, the Netherlands or the FRG, which has more than 2,500 breweries.

The most important factor, however, is that beer sets the standard for the price of other products and an increase in the price of beer will necessarily have an effect on the others, further weakening the purchasing power of the population, and will deprive the people of a source of income in an abnormal socioeconomic situation, brought about by the war.

* German Unification Slows Motorcycle Plant

91AF0531B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Jan 91 p 3

[Report by Liberman da Cruz: "Fabimor Seeks To Use Japanese Technology"]

[Text] Engineer Rogerio Silva, general director of Fabimor, said recently in Luanda that his company produced 16,000 bicycles and 6,156 motorcycles in 1990.

The company reached its highest production figure for bicycles last year, compared with previous years.

However, although it showed a significant increase in bicycle production, the company produced only about as many motorcycles as in past years. Unfortunately, Fabimor was faced with a situation unforeseen in its plans; the radical changes occurring in the former GDR, culminating in the reunification of the two Germanys last October, almost led to cancellation of Fabimor's contract to supply "Simpson" motorcycles.

In view of the situation, Fabimor shut down its motorcycle assembly line last September, upsetting the company's production plans, which were based on the figures for 1989, when it produced 6,437 motorcycles.

According to the general director, it is the post-sale service which is concerning the company administration; the failure to renew the contract as planned in 1990, leading to the shutdown of its plant in September, also removed the possibility of putting spare parts on the market in the quantity needed to guarantee the servicing of the motorcycles.

This precarious situation was further aggravated by a wave of thefts at the Commercial Port of Luanda, where Fabimor containers were broken into and almost completely emptied.

Rogerio Silva added that the stolen goods are being sold in the parallel markets, particularly the Gulf market. It is noted that Fabimor signed a basic contract for collaboration with the DGR company "Transportmaschinen" in 1985, for the installation of the "Simpson" assembly line.

According to Silva, addenda were added to the contract, providing for the supply of "quits" that enabled the assembly line to function. The director explained that although the base contract expired in November 1990, the addendum to supply "quits" is valid for 1990/1991.

However, "the changes that are occurring as a result of reunification include commercial factors, because there is a drastic increase in prices, on the order of 70 percent, as well as a change in the financing conditions previously arrived at under an existing agreement between the GDR and Angola," the director explained.

In this regard, the proposals that Fabimor has received from the unified Germany, that is to say, proposals

dictated by the rules of the market, are completely different from the agreement that existed with the former GDR.

The Fabimor general director, who recently traveled to Germany, said negotiations are currently in progress, basically seeking lines of credit to finance the supply of "quits." The line of credit with the German banks expires on 15 January.

Silva noted that other negotiations are in progress, aimed at alternative arrangements, with other partners, which would enable the company to produce other brands of motorcycles in the country within a short time.

It is noted that Fabimor has assembled "Suzuki" motorcycles and good bicycles in the past. "We are seeking out various partners, with a preference for Japanese models—which does not mean models originating in Japan but, rather, produced with Japanese technology," Silva remarked.

"Fabimor intends to pursue negotiations with various potential partners so that, in 1992, the company can go into operation with a contract to this end."

To ease the minds of owners of the "Simpson" motorcycles now in circulation, through a prior agreement with the Ministry [of Industry], Fabimor will guarantee to supply parts, directly or indirectly, the general director assured.

* Black Market Said To Be 'Necessary Evil'

91AF0531A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 5 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by O.G.: "No Equality in Black Market"]

[Text] The topic: A day in the life of a worker. One could write a thousand and one things about it. The situations that arise are many and certainly cannot be contained in a column. But since one has to write it, one has to start somewhere. And we begin at the end, when the worker lies down in his bed and pushes his wife away because he is tired and not in any mood for the good-night-sweet-dreams kiss. She turns away and rolls over on her side. He remains stiff, eyes fixed on the ceiling, as if the solution to his problems were there.

Life, which had already been difficult enough before, is now worse. Accustomed to and perfectly integrated in the vicious circle of the black market, where he was obliged to "make a killing" in order to have an easier "death, he now finds himself out of the loop. He can no longer make a "killing." The products that he buys in the shop to which someone gave the name "special" and which once embodied the concealed social differentiation, created to camouflage reality, are no longer bringing him enough profit to pay for his other needs.

At the store, he picks up rice, sugar, a can of milk, oil, beans, and a few other things, but he does not find the proteins: fish, meat, eggs. He has to go to the [parallel]

market. But he is short of money. Wages have gone up 20 percent, but, even so, it is not enough to meet the needs of the household. The case of beer that he buys at the "special" store will not bring in very much and, moreover, he runs the risk of being picked up by the "economic" [police] and hearing his name read out on television, as a speculator.

The worker is between the rock and the hard place. They have taken away his weapons. He is alone, not knowing how to defend himself. When he seeks out a bar, a beer, to refresh his mind, he finds they are closed, because the "barrel truck has not been around. It has not shown up for a week. They say that the brewery is taking stock." On top of this, he has to put up with the bartender, who spends 15 minutes telling him his problems. The bartender has 300 contos in expenses every month—wages, taxes for this and that—and he does not have the stocks to open his doors.

And the worker thinks: "Ah, if I could just close up the house when I don't have enough food to feed the children. Ah, if I could tie a knot in my belly when you close your door and I have no other place to eat. Ah, if I could..." But he can't. He does not have the right. He goes in search of a cigarette. As we all know, tobacco is only sold on street corners. There even seems to be a direct sales system; the tobacco leaves the door of the factory and goes straight to the thousands of women and children who sell it in those countless "mobile tobacco shops" all over the city. Unfortunately, he has to go a great distance, because it seems that cigarettes have also vanished. When he finds a vendor and asks the price, he is told that Senators are 50 bills (1,000 a pack), but AC's have gone up to 100 (2,000 a pack). He complains, but the woman says, quoting someone: "Comrade, we are living in a market economy."

Having no answer to that, he tries to get around the situation; instead of AC's or Senators, he buys a "Jucas," which is cheaper. He returns home on foot, because the buses are full and taxis already cost 130 [new kwanzas]. Everything goes up and up and up. And his funds go down, down, down.

And now, as he lies in bed staring at the ceiling, he can't understand what is happening. Before, we were trying socialism, with a centralized economy and everything. Then there was nothing in the [official] stores, but there was beer to [resell for a profit] out there to remedy the situation. If it was not socialism, at least it was a socialized black market. Now they are trying to change things. What was bad, mistaken, in the past must be decentralized; the economy must be governed by the laws of the market. And so what happened? The black market became a monopoly. It is a capitalist black market, for the few but not for everyone. We have lost the right to equality—at least in this area.

BOTSWANA

*** De Beers Link With Okavango Project Denied**

91AF0575A Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English
11 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] Contrary to newspaper reports, De Beers has no direct involvement in the proposed Okavango Water Supply Scheme, says a press release issued by De Beers Centenary.

The statement is in reaction to reference to diamond mining and De Beers in particular in newspaper reports so far.

The statement noted De Beers, however, is an equal partner with the government of Botswana in De Beers Botswana Mining Company (Pty) Ltd (Debswana), which holds the lease to the Orapa mine.

Orapa drew water from the nearby Mopipi Dam, which was supplied from the Boteti River, from 1972 until the drought which occurred in the early 1980s. Since then, it has been entirely reliant on borehole supplies, notes the release.

Sufficient underground water reserves have been identified in the vicinity of Orapa and are estimated to be capable of sustaining the mine and the township during the prolonged droughts, adds the release.

In Botswana, it adds, the use of borehole or surface water is controlled by the government's Department of Water Affairs.

De Beers understands that development of the Okavango water scheme is expected to take place in two phases, of which only the first phase, to supply water to the communities in the Maun area, some 250 kilometres from Orapa, has been decided by the government.

De Beers is not aware of any decision by the government to proceed with the second phase of the project, which would involve the construction of a dam at Sukwane.

Preliminary estimates suggest that the cost of water from Sukwane would be significantly more than the water that Orapa currently receives from the boreholes, but the ultimate decision essentially lies with the government, which alone has the responsibility for determining the best long-term allocation of scarce water resources.

The release states it should therefore be clearly understood that the proposed Okavango water scheme was not in response to any representation from Debswana.

Reports which attempt to link the diamond industry to the development of the scheme are therefore inaccurate, it ends. BOPA

MAURITIUS

*** Contingent War Emergency Plan Adopted**

91AF0554A Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
11 Jan 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] The end came for the government yesterday morning even as the Baker-Aziz talks in Geneva failed. Moreover, as Tuesday's edition of L'EXPRESS announced, the ministers also went over the Gulf Crisis Committee's War Emergency Plan with a fine-tooth comb.

However, shortly before the Cabinet's weekly meeting, Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth met with the American ambassador to Mauritius, Mrs. Percy Penne Korth. According to all indications, Mrs. Korth brought the head of the government up to date on the latest developments in the Gulf situation.

The major concern in official circles is to avoid stirring up the Mauritian people. "We must not generate undue concern as the 15 January deadline approaches. They must understand that the situation is serious, but there is no reason to give way to panic," official circles emphasized yesterday.

In addition, the press release issued by the government following the Cabinet's deliberations emphasizes that "the government is very closely monitoring the situation and will be taking all necessary measures in the light of various recommendations made by the Gulf Crisis Committee and also after taking into account the evolution of the situation in the Gulf." [as published]

Although the prime minister had initially decided to speak to the people on television last night, in the end he did not do so. "This decision results from a desire not to stir up the Mauritanian people," it was explained.

L'EXPRESS also learned from authorized sources that the national television station is now planning a debate for Monday on the Gulf crisis and its impact on Mauritius. The main guests on the panel are to be the head of Mauritian diplomacy, Jean-Claude de l'Estrac, opposition leader Sir Satcam Boolell, and PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party] leader Sir Gaetan Duval.

"The program has yet to be confirmed. Viewers would also be able to address questions directly to MBCTV [Mauritius Television Broadcasting Corporation] guests," it was officially announced.

Concerning the War Emergency Plan passed at yesterday's Cabinet meeting, few details of the measures drafted have sifted out. According to semi-official sources, it is increasingly obvious that Mauritius will soon set up a War Measures Committee endowed with executive powers to monitor the situation.

As Tuesday's edition of L'EXPRESS announced, the War Emergency Plan contains three types of measures: Stage 1, when the situation is neither war nor peace;

Stage 2, with localized armed conflict in the Gulf; and Stage 3, if the conflict turns into a world war.

As one might assume, the most difficult measures will be applied during the third phase of the conflict. The War Measures Committee will be called upon to issue the warnings depending on how the situation develops. Measures recommended by the Gulf Crisis Committee are twofold: first of all, providing proper management of existing stocks of essential products in order to avoid any sudden break in the supply; and second, implementing a series of measures to step up local production, mainly of produce, to meet domestic demand.

If a Stage 3 warning becomes necessary, very precise instructions could be issued to big planters, particularly of the sugar cane plantations, to increase local production of produce, particularly potatoes.

One cannot ignore the fact that the supply and distribution of oil products remain the main elements of this War Emergency Plan. The government will initially rely on the common sense of drivers and Mauritians in general to conserve fuel.

Early information would seem to indicate that rationing of basic foodstuffs such as rice, flour, powdered milk, and oil products will not start on 15 January. The new ration cards will not come out unless there is a Stage 2 warning because Mauritius now has an adequate supply of such imports.

However, if the situation in the Gulf deteriorates, stricter measures, particularly very tight gas rationing, will be applied. Private cars could only be used on certain weekends and the gas quota allotted for every automobile would only be enough for a maximum 100 miles of driving a week.

Electric power savings measures will also affect the domestic sector. We must remember that the Gulf crisis comes at a very critical time. "We must not expect electric power to be generated from bagasse or by hydro-electric plants during this period. There will obviously be periods when electric power will be cut if there is a major crisis in the Gulf," officials stress.

Ministry of Commerce officials will also come into play during this period to prevent any hoarding that might create an artificial shortage of basic products.

The War Emergency Plan passed by the Cabinet yesterday will be the bible for Mauritian authorities if Iraq remains in Kuwaiti territory after the 15 January deadline.

* Security Tightened at Potential Trouble Spots

91AF0617D Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
19 Jan 91 p 7

[Article by H. Chundunsing: "Security Tightened at Trouble Spots"]

[Text] The police tightened security at trouble spots in Mauritius after the outbreak of the war in the Gulf.

These security measures involve the port and airport, and the buildings of the diplomatic missions in the country that are directly implicated in the armed conflict. People who are used to going to the central barracks through the entrance on Jemmapes Street will certainly have noticed yesterday that a member of the Special Supporting Unit [SSU] was writing down the license plate numbers of all the vehicles entering the central barracks. By the same token, the number of SSU members in the courtyard of the central barracks was considerably larger. Especially near the armory.

The same thing was true of the Special Mobile Force, although the disposition of soldiers appeared somewhat more spectacular than that of the police force. The French police baptized their preventive operation "Pirate Lookout," but the Mauritian police did not give any code name to their operation, which they described as a "routine exercise."

* Security Tightened at Plaisance Airport

91AF0558C Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
15 Jan 91 p 3

[Article entitled: "Security Measures Stepped Up in Plaisance"; italicized words published in English]

[Text] Security measures have already been taken by the authorities to monitor the various strategic points of the Plaisance Airport, in case of war in the Gulf.

That is what L'EXPRESS learned Monday morning from Plaisance Airport security staff.

After the failure of the James Baker/Tarek Aziz negotiations for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, arrangements were made at the airport to meticulously search every passenger departing from or arriving to Mauritius by plane.

A Plaisance Airport spokesman commented that it was entirely normal that security standards be shored up at Plaisance, to guard against all eventualities.

He added, however, that he could not give more details concerning what will be done in the coming days by police and the *Special Mobile Force*.

Moreover, as a security measure, no plane whose arrival in Mauritius has not been planned will be allowed to land at Plaisance Airport.

* Berenger on Partial Test Ban Treaty

91AF0553A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in English
11 Jan 91 p 7

[Text] of Paul Berenger's speech at meeting of non-aligned participants at the Partial Test Ban Treaty

Amendment Conference on 8 January in New York City. Words in boldface as published.]

[Text] Mr President,

My delegation wishes to congratulate you on assuming the presidency of the Partial Test Ban treaty Amendment Conference as well as Mr Kheradi on taking up the position of Secretary General of the Conference. We keep hope that under your guidance we shall achieve success in spite of diverging positions, and reach a solution acceptable to all.

As mentioned earlier by other speakers, the Amendment Conference takes place against a mixed backdrop.

On the one hand, it is a fact that recent years have witnessed a significant improvement in the overall international political climate. We have entered the post-cold war period and are opening the door to what President Bush himself has called "a new world order." The quantitative growth of the nuclear weapon arsenals has been stopped and the total number of nuclear-warheads in the world has started slowly to decline. The Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union has abolished a whole category of nuclear weapons and has introduced the most comprehensive nuclear verification provisions to date. The same two countries have agreed, after 16 years, to ratify the protocols to the Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty (PNET). The Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe has been signed in Paris in November last and has laid the foundation for what has been described here as a security architecture encompassing the whole of Europe.

On the other hand, it is also true that the global total of nuclear-warhead amounts today to some 50,000, deployed around the world and on the high seas. The qualitative growth of nuclear weapons goes on with such potential new weapons as nuclear-powered X-Rays lasers including their way forwards the test sites. Reductions in nuclear arsenals in the United States and Soviet Union will be considerably less than the 50 percent promised earlier and Presidents Bush and Gorbachev have allowed their self-imposed end-of-the-year 1990 deadline for completing the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) to elapse. In the First Committee and United Nations General Assembly this year, cold war voting patterns have remained. The Gulf Crisis has made the danger of nuclear weapons being used in regional conflicts more real than ever.

Mr President,

Mauritius would wish, on the occasion of the present Amendment Conference, to say once again, as President Gorbachev has been saying, that as far as nuclear weapons themselves are concerned, the final aim must remain their total elimination, in accordance with the Preambles to both the NPT and PTBT.

Mauritius disagrees with those who are eager proponents of the total elimination of chemical weapons but argue that nuclear weapons cannot be "disinvented" and that therefore a "balance of nuclear terror" is forever inevitable.

Long Overdue

We believe on the contrary that a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty is long overdue, and we fully concur with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who observed in 1984 that such a Treaty was the "litmus test" of the real willingness of nuclear-weapon states and others to pursue nuclear disarmament.

Mr President,

Thirty-two years ago, President Eisenhower initiated negotiations for a comprehensive test-ban after declaring a moratorium on testing. Today, after more than three decades, two of the nuclear weapons states parties to the PTBT are unwilling even to negotiate a comprehensive test-ban, and two other nuclear weapons states have refused so far to sign the PTBT and have not even sent observers to the present Amendment Conference.

The first two nuclear weapon states referred to above have argued that continued nuclear weapons testing is necessary to maintain the reliability and safety of the existing stockpile and that appropriate verification of a complete test-ban would be impossible. These two arguments do not hold. The best experts have shown that the reliability of existing weapons can be assured in the future by a careful program of non-nuclear testing and replacement. The same experts have established that although compliance with a complete test-ban can never be verified with 100 percent certainty, a monitoring threshold is today technically possible which would exclude militarily significant clandestine tests.

As was put forcefully on Tuesday by Ambassador Theorin of Sweden, "nuclear testing in fact serves no other real purpose but to develop new and more effective nuclear weapons, whatever the present excuses are." Put differently, others have stressed that the points and claims which have been advanced in opposition to a complete test-ban are not so much **reasons**, as might be advanced in a logical debate, as they are **reactions**, on the part of persons imbued with the conviction that a nuclear arms race is inevitable; that the only hope of security consists in staying ahead in that race and that this approach is now, and will continue to be, a necessary way of life.

Mr President,

Extending the NPT

We have been reminded here that the PTBT which has been in existence for 27 years and now has 118 States Parties to it, was the first global nuclear disarmament agreement, and that the present PTBT Amendment

Conference constitutes the first truly multilateral negotiating forum on a nuclear arms treaty where all countries concerned, nuclear and non-nuclear alike, can participate fully and on an equal footing. It is equally true that the NPT, for all its virtues, is based on discrimination, whereas the PTBT is non-discriminatory, as would be a CTBT.

In fact, nuclear tests provocatively flaunt the discriminatory nature of the present non-proliferation regime which permits some states to improve their nuclear arsenals while others must forego nuclear arms.

In that sense, the fate of the PTBR and of an eventual CTBT is inevitably tied to that of the NPT and of its 1995 Extension Conference.

Mauritius is in favour of extending the NPT beyond 1995. It wishes to see all nuclear-weapon states sign the NPT and the NPT achieving universal status as soon as possible.

To that end, between now and 1995, Mauritius would wish to see as proposed by Egypt, and informal dialogue between the States Parties to the NPT and states that are not parties to the NPT, to examine proposals for improving the NPT by removing its major flaws, and to consider the possibility of calling an Amendment Conference between now and 1995 or in 1995 for that purpose.

Mr President, As was said on Tuesday by Ambassador Moussa of Egypt, while priorities do exist, all items on the disarmament agenda are interrelated.

Mauritius believes, as most of us here do that regional Treaties prohibiting the acquisition, control, manufacture and stationing as well as the testing of nuclear weapons, have a vital role to play even though, as was said by Ambassador Ordonez of Philippines, they are interim measures.

In that context, Mauritius is now actively promoting the concept of a South West Indian Ocean and Southern African Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, along the lines of the 1985 South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga).

The presence of South Africa in the zone concerned raises delicate issues and the ANC [African National Congress] and others are being kept fully informed and consulted.

It is also evident that if South Africa were to join such a regional nuclear-free zone treaty, the International Atomic Energy Agency would face new challenges in devising a safeguard system for that country's nuclear facilities, thereby creating a very important precedent.

Mr President,

To come back to the present Amendment Conference, I wish to refer to the remark made on Tuesday by Ambassador Jayasinghe of Sri Lanka, that it was never the

intention of the co-sponsors of the Amendment Conference that it should be terminated with one session. Indeed, we must recall that the recent General Assembly resolution 45/50 which relates to the present Amendment Conference, was approved with an important majority, and recommended the setting-up of "a working group or other measures it deems appropriate" to study certain aspects of a CTBT and to report its conclusions to the Conference.

It is also vital to keep in mind that confrontation must be avoided at all costs in the present Amendment Conference.

We wish in this regard to congratulate the two nuclear-weapon states opposed to amending the PTBT into a CTBT that have nevertheless fulfilled their duties as Depositary Governments of the PTBT and convened the present Amendment Conference.

We are certain that whatever decisions may be taken by the present Amendment Conference, they shall never act in breach of their obligations as Depositories of the PTBT.

Mr President,

Mauritius believes that this Amendment Conference should proceed along the lines recommended by the General Assembly Resolution 45/50.

Whatever happens here however, Mauritius hopes to see the Ad Hoc Committee on a nuclear-test ban of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament carry on with its work in 1991 even without a negotiating mandate and with all five nuclear-weapons States participating.

Mauritius agrees that the mandate of the "working group" which resolution 45/50 recommends this Amendment Conference should set up, need not overlap with the work of the Geneva conference on Disarmament's Ad Hoc Committee, if we proceed with all required care here.

Peaceful Application of Nuclear Energy

For our part, we would wish to see the "working group" deal with, among other things, the issue of provisions/sanctions aimed at ensuring compliance with an eventual CTBT as was proposed here by Ambassador Rozenthal of Mexico, and with the issue of so-called "nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes" such as very low-yield nuclear fusion explosions relating to research on possible peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

Should this Amendment Conference fail to set-up the "working group" proposed in General Assembly resolution 45/50, the next best option in our view would be for the present Conference to be postponed to meet again next year. It would then decide, in the light of the proceedings of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, whether the "working group" should then be set up or whether this Amendment conference should then take any other decision.

Mr President,

Mauritius cannot accept the view that a comprehensive test-ban should be a long-term goal.

We have taken note, however, of the United States' recent statement to the effect that as the new verification protocols to the Threshold Test-Ban Treaty and Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaties are put into practice, "the United States will be ready to propose negotiations on possible further nuclear-testing limitations that make sense from a national security stand-point, contribute to stability, and still permit the certainty of a reliable, safe and effective deterrent."

Others, arguing that arms control is the art of the possible, have proposed a phased process, with each step building on the success of the previous one, the number and yield of nuclear tests decreasing from one step to the other until the goal of a CTBT is reached.

All avenues of progress should of course be explored.

But the fact remains in the final analysis that a CTBT is long overdue.

Mauritius hopes earnestly that by the combined results of our work here and at the Ad Hoc Committee of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament as well as bilateral discussions between the United States and the Soviet Union and eventual nuclear test discussions involving also the three other nuclear weapon states, rapid progress will be made this year and next year in the direction of along overdue CTBT.

Mr President, allow me to end by saying that this Amendment Conference has been unique in one other way. I refer here to the unprecedented involvement of certain NGO's [nongovernmental organizations], particularly Parliamentarians, for Global Action and Greenpeace, in the convening and work of this Conference. This has served to remind us all that nuclear disarmament is everyone's business and not just the business of governments and of International Organizations.

Thank you, Mr President.

* Outcome of Conference on Test Ban Treaty

91AF0641A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
27 Jan 91 p 5

Unattributed article: "Nuclear Test Ban; Positive Outcome of New York Conference"; first two paragraphs are WEEK-END introduction; italicized words published in English]

[Text] A vote on Mr. Ali Alatas' proposal to continue the talks gave the following results: 74 for (including Mauritius), 19 abstentions, and 2 against (Great Britain and the United States).

The conference convened by members of the Nonaligned Movement to study the feasibility of converting the

Partial Test Ban Treaty into a *Complete Test Ban Treaty* was held in New York on 7-18 January and ended on an upbeat note. At any rate, that was the impression of the prime minister's special adviser on disarmament, Mr. Paul Berenger, who attended the first part of the conference and even addressed it on 10 January. A vote was eventually taken on the compromise proposed by the conference chairman, Mr. Ali Alatas, the Indonesian minister of foreign affairs, giving him a mandate to "carry out consultations" and to reconvene the conference at a later date; the results were as follows: 79 in favor, including Mauritius, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union, and Seychelles. In a statement to WEEK-END, last Friday, Mr. Paul Berenger stated that Mauritius was especially happy that Australia and Sweden had finally voted for the proposal. The two countries that voted against were the United States and Great Britain, and those that abstained included Japan, Canada, and Germany. Madagascar was absent when the vote was taken.

Under the *Partial Test Ban Treaty*, the so-called depositary countries, in particular the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union, have a veto right; also, they had indicated their intention to veto any amendment. What was really at stake, Mr. P. Berenger explained to WEEK-END, was not amending the treaty, but the fact that nonaligned countries wanted to bring nuclear tests back into the spotlight and continue to exert pressure for the conference to go on. Under a UN resolution voted last November, the New York conference was expected to work toward the creation of a *Working Committee*, and eventually study that committee's report. However, during the first week of the conference, Mr. Berenger said, the United States adopted a curt and challenging tone, stating that they would neither take part in the conference nor finance it if it decided to set up a *Working Committee*. During the second week, the conference was presented with two draft resolutions. In view of the intransigence of the United States, the nonaligned countries, with Mexico at their head, circulated a proposal aimed at creating a *Working Group* and convening a conference at a later date. The second resolution came from the conference chairman himself, Mr. Ali Alatas, the Indonesian minister of foreign affairs, who asked for a mandate to continue consultations and recall the conference later on.

Mauritian Lobbying for the Indonesian Proposal

When he was informed of this proposal, Mr. Berenger discussed it with the prime minister, and they decided to ask the Mauritian delegation members who attended the conference, Messrs. Peerthum and Cure, to lobby in favor of the Alatas proposal. Explaining the proposal in question to WEEK-END, Mr. Berenger said that if a vote had been taken on the creation of a *Working Group*, the United States and Great Britain would not have voted, and the conference itself would have fallen through. Participants at these conferences, he said, work on a consensus basis, and taking a vote already amounts to a failure. Therefore, the prime minister's special adviser

said he was pleased that Mexico and the nonaligned countries finally aligned themselves on the Indonesian proposal and thus took part in the vote on 18 January.

Before the vote, Mr. Berenger further said, the countries concerned explained their position. For instance, the United States changed their tone and no longer talked of a boycott; they even expressed the wish that a *Complete Test Ban Treaty* be reached in the long run, and that the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, which resumed on 22 January, should work toward a progressive ban on nuclear tests. The same flexible attitude was adopted by Great Britain. Mr. Berenger also pointed out that Israel abstained from voting, but that its representative stated that Israel was in favor of the creation of a denuclearized zone in the Middle East. Expressing again his satisfaction at the outcome of the conference, Mr. Berenger said that he was very happy with the quality of the Mauritian contribution and he congratulated the United States on their change of tone.

Speaking on disarmament in general, Mr. Berenger said that there are two capitals, New York and Geneva. In Geneva, the conference goes on. It resumed its work on 22 January. Not all countries are members, he explained. The 40 members include the United States, Great Britain, France, China, India, Canada, Sweden, Australia, Egypt, Pakistan, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Sri Lanka. Currently, there is some talk about enlarging it, as some countries (e.g., Zimbabwe and Senegal) have expressed their desire to join it. The conference rules also provide for the occasional participation of some non-member countries.

Looking Toward Geneva

At present, Mauritius itself is considering the possibility of joining the Geneva conference in the future, especially because most of its work deals with the nuclear test ban and the conclusion of an international convention on the use, manufacture, and possession of chemical weapons. The Geneva conference, Mr. Berenger emphasized, has set up two ad hoc committees to consider these two questions. China, which was not a participant, joined the ad hoc committee on nuclear tests last year and has indicated that it intends to continue its commitment. France, Mr. Berenger said, is the only country that did not join the committee on nuclear tests.

Since his return from the New York conference, Mr. Berenger has followed up on two of the proposals contained in his address to the United Nations, i.e., the signature of a Denuclearized Zone Treaty in the Indian Ocean and southern Africa, and the start of talks on the 1995 conference that will decide whether to renew the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Talks, he told WEEK-END, have already started with India, China, and France. Concerning the regional denuclearization treaty, the prime minister's special adviser said that Zimbabwe had written a letter expressing its support for the Mauritian initiative. Besides, Mr. Berenger will go both to

Madagascar and to Harare for talks on this whole question. Contacts on this subject have also been resumed with Nigeria and the ANC [African National Congress], and with the Indian, Chinese, and Egyptian ambassadors to Mauritius. The prime minister's special adviser on disarmament has also discussed disarmament with the Swedish and Australian ambassadors.

* De L'Estrac Clarifies Position on RSA

91AF0462A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
23 Dec 90 pp 5, 9

[Excerpts from an interview with Mauritian foreign affairs minister Jean-Claude de L'Estrac, by Michel Dedans, date and place not given: "Mauritius Will Not Have Diplomatic Relations With Pretoria"; first paragraph is WEEK-END introduction]

[Excerpts] Those who thought the Mauritian Government was cozying up to Pretoria to establish diplomatic relations will be disappointed. It is out of the question—at least, as things stand in South Africa today. Should Pretoria decide to abolish apartheid, however, Port Louis will recognize the South African regime. But as the foreign affairs minister told Michel Dedans yesterday morning, Sir Anerood Jugnauth's government recognizes that positive steps have been taken by President de Klerk. Even so, Mr. Jean-Claude de L'Estrac predicts that postapartheid South Africa will not escape serious problems, which is why he cautions Mauritian businessmen against euphoria.

[Dedans] Mr. Jean-Claude de L'Estrac, you have undeniably given new impetus to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and your dynamism is also recognized by ministry personnel and the head of state. In a world in profound upheaval, where the basic facts are constantly shifting, can you tell us what your concept of foreign policy is, as you intend to apply it?

[De L'Estrac] Despite the deep changes on the international scene, the concept of diplomacy has not changed. What has changed, obviously, is how states practice it. As far as Mauritius is concerned, 1990 reinforced the lesson that states have neither permanent friends nor irreducible enemies. States have interests. Those who help us safeguard our interests are friends. That is why I am trying to anchor our diplomatic efforts more firmly in the defense of our interests, particularly our economic interests. But any country with any self-respect must also, and above all, have principles. There are certain ideas, a certain world view, to which we hold: respect for law, the fight against injustices, the struggle for the self-determination of peoples, and the war against all sorts of racism. Those principles, too, guide our actions internationally and spur us to solidarity with all those who fight for the same causes. And we have had occasion to demonstrate this. But 1990 was also a year of contradictions: on the one hand, we witnessed changes that brought us closer to the ideal of a freer and more just world. On the other, we are ending the year with the

horrible menace of a war in which everyone will lose. A sweeping reexamination of the question is called for. At the same time that we have seen a strong comeback on the part of the United Nations, which has regained a great deal of credibility, we are paradoxically reminded of the injustices that must be corrected by that organization: notably the endless drama of the Palestinians and other peoples, crushed by the powers of the day. So we must hope that what the United Nations, the United States, and European countries are justly inclined to do to protect the tiny state of Kuwait; 1991 will give them the opportunity to show that there are no double-standard politics (sic). They must show that what they are defending in the Persian Gulf are principles and not merely oil. [passages omitted]

[Dedans] As minister of foreign affairs, you, but also Mr. Paul Berenger, were assailed by Dr. Navin Ramgoolam on the question of opening a South African bureau of commerce in Mauritius and establishing diplomatic relations with Pretoria, with the blessing of the ANC (African National Congress). The PT's (Labor Party) designated leader maintains that the ANC never gave its blessing to the two plans. Was Mauritius right to agree to the opening of a South African trade bureau? Should it have diplomatic relations with Pretoria? And should it step up its trade relations with that country?

[De L'Estrac] To assess the quality of the comments to which you refer: They must be made by credible people who know what they are talking about. Unfortunately, that is not the case! First, a little history. The decision to open a South African trade bureau in Port Louis was made by the MSM (Mauritius Socialist Movement)/PT administration when Sir Satcam Boolell was still in the government. That said, we fully accept the decision. The reminder is made solely for the benefit of certain permanent absentees. Personally, however, I think the decision is politically defensible. And I have no problem accepting it, insofar as I see it as a way for the Mauritian Government to indicate to both President de Klerk and our ANC comrades that we recognize the quality of the decisions made and positive measures enacted so far to dismantle apartheid. After everything that has gone on in South Africa, we cannot now act toward that country as if nothing had happened. That is why we have set out a policy, an approach to the changing situation in that country that we define as a policy of "cautious and gradual encouragement." But make no mistake about it, a trade commission is not an embassy. And there can be no question of diplomatic relations with South Africa until apartheid is abolished. Well, apartheid has not yet been dismantled. There are still serious problems to be solved in that country. And the real question is this: Can all the measures so far taken and the repeated intentions of South African authorities lead us to conclude that the process under way in favor of abolishing apartheid is irreversible? As far as we are concerned, as long as negotiations on the crucial question of the new South African democratic constitution are still unfinished, as long as the laws, notably the land-ownership system,

have still not been revoked, we are clearly not safe from a reversal of the situation. Not through the deliberate will of South African or ANC authorities, but through the weight of circumstances and the balance of power, which could become unfavorable to the process under way. Moreover, the person commenting on trade relations with South Africa must have a short memory to have forgotten that they have existed for many years. And that even within the opposition, the MMM (Mauritian Militant Movement) has never opposed them—rather, we criticized their extent. And I repeat that we must be very cautious, for the extent of our trade relations may get us into trouble in the coming months and years. Even with a new South Africa—for the political and economic situation of that country will be extremely troubled in coming years. It will become a volcano. It is therefore in our interests to diversify our imports, principally our food imports. We must also strive to correct the imbalance in the trade relationship, which is now sharply in Pretoria's favor. And if we must have trade relations—and we do—we might as well establish a certain balance in those relations.

[Dedans] Dr. Ramgoolam leveled some very serious accusations against the government, and indirectly against you, saying that Mauritius will be judged for the crime of "collaboration" with the South African regime despite the ANC's call for a boycott and for diplomatic nonrecognition of that country.

[De L'Estrac] Does Navin Ramgoolam have all the information he needs to speak out on the question? If he is referring to establishing diplomatic relations, he is wrong. However, if he means that, during the present phase, we should take into account the ANC's positions, he is right. During a seminar organized for the private sector, I had the opportunity to explain to those who think we attach too much importance to the ANC and its positions, and that our concern is "ideologically" motivated, that they were wrong. It must be understood and acknowledged that the ANC is representative of the aspirations of the black South African populations and that, in postapartheid South Africa, it will be in power and will be a driving force. And that even were we motivated purely by the desire to defend our interests, we do well to cultivate our relations with that organization. That is why I have just reiterated to members of the diplomatic corps that we support the efforts of President de Klerk, but that we remain sensitive to the proposals of our ANC friends. We did not wait for Navin Ramgoolam to do this.

[Dedans] Then Mauritius has no intention of instituting diplomatic relations with South Africa until apartheid is abolished?

[De L'Estrac] Precisely. Mauritius will not have diplomatic relations with Pretoria—that is clear, unqualified, and categorical. It has been affirmed and reiterated. However, Mauritius recognizes that efforts are being made in South Africa, and it wants to support them.

while supporting and working with the positive measures until apartheid is dismantled.

[Dedans] Is the government right to encourage South African businessmen to invest in Mauritius?

[De L'Estrac] It is a false problem. For the new South Africa will itself need massive investments, and companies will have to manufacture for a potential domestic market. However, it may be that during the unstable period, some investors would want to launch companies in Mauritius. But we have always known how to draw the distinction between governments and individuals.

[Dedans] Is it true that Mauritius is viewed poorly in ANC circles for its commercial links with Pretoria?

[De L'Estrac] Those who say so do not know what they are talking about. We have excellent relations with the ANC. Those who make such remarks should read the statement of M'beki, the ANC's international relations officer, at a recent seminar in London. They will learn that there is a debate within the ANC on that very question. Let me point out, too, that during the past year South Africa's trade with African countries increased 50 percent. And we have so far done nothing to justify any accusations. Such remarks are, to say the least, unpatriotic. They add fuel to a campaign that was sometimes warranted by certain past actions of previous governments, and under the leadership of Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. But the course of the MSM/MMM government is justified by the concrete changes in South Africa. The whole world is now looking at revising its position toward that country. And no one can accuse Mauritius of the least impropriety. For we are all involved in the same sort of reflection. During this time, management of diplomatic problems should be left to those responsible for them. Thus, those who believe, like the EEC countries are thinking about it (sic), that the process is irreversible, are moving in the direction of lifting sanctions. In this they are joined by moderate ANC leaders. On the other hand, there are those who think it is too early to decide that the trend to dismantle apartheid is irreversible, and who maintain that sanctions, especially financial ones but also those on oil products, must be kept up. They are supported in this by the ANC rank and file. Thus, we are in the midst of a heated debate in which interests and political positions clash. I have always thought that on questions of foreign policy, we should try to seek the broadest possible international consensus. Diplomatically strong countries are those that show unity of action. We will do great harm to Mauritian interests if, through the actions of a few leaders, foreign countries can attempt to set us against one another. It is my deepfelt conviction that there is very broad fundamental consensus on all these questions in our country. So let us not try to play petty politics with questions of vital interest to the future of Mauritius.

[Dedans] Are we right to seek out opportunities for distributing our manufactured, especially textile, products in the South African market, given the problems in the free zone?

[De L'Estrac] Businessmen must think about, study, and discuss opportunities that could open up in postapartheid South Africa. Without becoming euphoric. I imagine they will be considerable in scope. At this time there is a document making the rounds inside the ANC on what actions are appropriate during the transition period. Contradictory views on how one should proceed during this period are being expressed within the organization itself—depending on what happens at the beginning of the year. The period may be a relatively short, or relatively long, one. We are in this transition period. I feel it is absolutely appropriate that we take advantage of it to study, become informed, discover facts, and take precautions. But I will be very careful that none of the actions needed to defend our interests can be presented or perceived as diplomatic recognition. In so doing, I will be going beyond what we ourselves decided. [passages omitted]

[Dedans] Do you think the risk of war in the Gulf is real?

[De L'Estrac] Today, I think it is. And I hope I will change my mind tomorrow. Like many others, I have gone back and forth on the question from one day to the next, depending on the rise and fall of tensions in relations. What worries me the most is the weight of men's decisions. And accordingly, the weight of individuals, of psychology, of madnesses. History is only too rich in expressions of human folly. In that sense, we are on the brink of war. Armed men, face to face, with their fingers already on the trigger. But if states are capable of reason, we could avoid this war, which we know will produce nothing but victims.

* KAL Movement Organized To Protest War

91AF0563A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
20 Jan 91 p 8

[Article: "Antiwar Demonstration Next Saturday"]

[Text] The Committee Against the War [KAL] demands closure of the port and airport to all military craft and no more collaboration with the Diego Garcia base...

Twenty-two Mauritian political, social, cultural, and labor organizations meeting at Rose-Hill yesterday afternoon pledged to wage a campaign for the re-establishment of peace in the Gulf region.

Next week the movement, dubbed KAL (Committee Against the War), will mobilize support throughout the Mauritian pacifist community for a monster rally in Port Louis next Saturday at 1000 hours.

The 22 local organizations (SPACE, ONDP, CAWU [expansions unknown], "Fangurin" Group, MLF [Mauritius Labor Federation], GWF [General Workers Federation], SOMAAP [expansion unknown], LALIT [Struggle], FMP [Progressive Militant Force], OMT-FNAS [Workers Militant Organization-National AntiSufferance Front], FTU [United Workers Federation], "Lataniers" Group, KMLI [expansion unknown],

Regroupman Travayer [Workers' Rally], Playgroup, SELK [expansion unknown], FPU [Federation of Progressive Unions], MAA, ACIM, JOC [expansions unknown], Mauritian Cultural Group and Government Teachers Union) have found it necessary to make common cause with that vast movement, which around the world—from Paris and Munich to New York and Brisbane (Australia)—is demanding the war be stopped. They urge total noncollaboration with the military authorities involved in the conflict.

For more than a month, as conflict in the Gulf loomed more and more ominously on the horizon, people in the United States, France, Germany, and Australia have been raising their voices against war. Closer to home, our Reunionese neighbors (with Monsignor Gilbert Aubry, Mr. Michel Folio, and TV announcer Suleiman Banian in the lead) have put together an antiwar coalition uniting people from all across the political and religious spectrum. France's Communist Party and ecologists, in association with the Swiss leftist parties, have taken the initiative of declaring Geneva, the capital of Switzerland, a haven for all soldiers and reservists who want to desert to avoid taking part in the slaughter.

Yesterday, after two days of meetings at FPU headquarters, the committee of 22 Mauritian organizations concluded they must have an antiwar platform and a strategy to stop this war, which will have serious consequences for the workers and the poor.

The KAL sent the press a letter signed by Ramdass Sooriah, Ashok Subron, and Jayen Chellum, calling on the Mauritian Government as a member of the United Nations to take the initiative. According to KAL, the government should insist on political negotiations to find a comprehensive resolution of all the problems of the Middle East; negotiations that would take into account the Palestinian and Lebanese problems, to guarantee stability in the region.

The war was not inevitable, according to KAL, but now that it has broken out it is absolutely imperative that the masses, both in Mauritius and around the world, organize themselves to bring it to a halt. According to KAL, the war is being dictated by the economic, political, and strategic interests of the great powers and regional powers. The committee says war entails mass destruction of human beings, productive resources, and the environment. In war, tremendous human resources are wasted on destruction instead of being used for humanity's advance.

The Mauritian KAL denounces the efforts being made throughout the world to suppress pacifist movements, and it warns against the danger of disunity. To fight against the war there must be unity, says KAL, which demands that the Mauritian Government discontinue all cooperation with the Diego Garcia military base. According to KAL, the fact that the Mauritian territory of Diego Garcia is being used for warlike purposes is a

matter of the utmost gravity. "Mauritius must stop supplying Diego with food and manpower."

KAL demands that Port Louis and the Plaisance airport be closed to all ships and planes involved in the war.

The committee calls on the people of Mauritius and Rodrigues not to fall into the trap of disunity on the war issue. The committee also appeals to the MBC [Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation] and the press for more objectivity in their coverage. MBC should broadcast news bulletins in Creole so all Mauritians can understand them.

The KAL will also campaign against speculation and the black market. It will demand reintroduction of price controls.

* Lalit Party Speaks Out Against War

[Italicized words published in Creole]

91AF0551B Port Louis WEEK-END in French
13 Jan 91 p 9

[Text] In a statement released to the press yesterday, the Lalit party invited all "socialist" political parties and workers' organizations to take a stand against the "imperialist war" that is brewing in the Gulf. According to Lalit, if war breaks out, it is the workers and "the poor people" of the world who will bear the brunt of it.

First of all, according to its communique, Lalit believes that most of the 600,000 soldiers in the U.S.-led multinational force are "children of poverty" and will be the first victims of a war. This is also its view of most of Iraq's 1 million soldiers.

According to Lalit, if the United States has decided to play the role of world policeman, it is because the economic interests of capitalism and imperialism are directly at stake.

Lalit stresses the fact that "the poor people" of the world will bear the brunt of a war that it believes will make itself felt through job lay-offs, the imposition of austerity measures, shortages, ecological crises, famine, and epidemics.

In order to avoid all of that, Lalit invites all "socialist" political parties and workers' organizations to take a stand against any potential war.

In addition, the party calls for pressures to be stepped up in favor of demilitarization and the return of Diego Garcia to Mauritius. It also calls for a uniform policy of rationing and efforts to combat speculation and the black market.

*** MMM Debates Gungah Visit to South Africa**

91AF0551A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
13 Jan 91 pp 1, 4

[Excerpt] Several members of the central committee of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] are taking a dim view of [Commerce] Minister Gungah's visit to South Africa for the purpose of finding alternative sources of petroleum products. The MMM would have preferred that no visit be made to South Africa by a minister affiliated with the MSM [Mauritius Socialist Movement] under any circumstances. The lengthy debate on this matter by the "Mauve" party's committee yesterday afternoon gave rise to highly animated discussions among committee members. The committee's meeting, by the way, extended slightly beyond the time at which a statement was scheduled to be made to the press. The MMM's central committee seized the opportunity at its first meeting in 1991 to review relations between the MMM and the MSM and to discuss the joint activities planned by the two parties for 17 February. The MMM also noted the chaotic state of the opposition and the intention of the former speaker, Mr. Ajay Daby, to join the Labor Party on the condition that he be granted the post of leader. The Gulf crisis also dominated the proceedings of the central committee.

In a statement to the press following the committee's meeting, Dr. Prem Nababsing stated that several members of the party's central committee expressed reservations with regard to the visit made to South Africa by the minister of commerce, Mr. Dwarkanath Gungah. According to Dr. Nababsing, some members of the MMM would have preferred that MSM ministers abstain from making any visits to South Africa, regardless of the circumstances. [passage omitted]

*** GWF Condemns Gungah Visit to South Africa**

91AF0618B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
19 Jan 91 p 4

[Article by Dharmanand Dhoocharika: "The GWF Condemns Minister Gungah's Visit to South Africa"]

[Text] At a press conference held yesterday at its headquarters on Poudriere Street in Port Louis, the General Workers Federation [GWF] sharply condemned Trade Minister Dwarkanath Gungah's visit to South Africa, a country practicing apartheid. Mr. Gungah went there to negotiate the purchase of oil products.

"We have always been against the policy of racial discrimination and we are against any relationship, whether commercial or otherwise, with South Africa," GWF President Bidianand Jhurry said yesterday. Commenting on the Gulf war between Iraq and the international forces, the GWF made a plea for peace and the complete demilitarization of the Indian Ocean.

The labor union indicated, however, that it intended to support the nonaligned countries and the government, as

well as the OAU and other international agencies advocating that the Indian Ocean be decreed a zone of peace.

"The GWF has always fought for the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean and it has spoken out for the return of Diego Garcia to Mauritian sovereignty. We have no intention of changing our principles and our position on such an important issue. Workers should learn from what is happening at the Diego Garcia military base. B-52 bombers based at Diego Garcia took off the day before yesterday for Iraq. This is extremely serious for Mauritian security," Bidianand Jhurry and Paul Manon of the GWF stated yesterday.

Asked to comment on the recent statement by Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Claude de L'Estrac to the effect that Diego Garcia military base is being used for an international cause, the GWF president said that there was still an ideological conflict between the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] and the GWF.

"The GWF is a trade union that respects its principles at all costs. Our position remains the same. We condemn any militarization of the Indian Ocean."

The labor union is of the opinion that Diego Garcia represents a real danger, not only for Mauritius but also for the entire Indian Ocean.

The GWF has invited the countries bordering the Indian Ocean and the Mauritian Government to step up their efforts to have the Indian Ocean converted into a peace zone.

Tomorrow the GWF will participate in a meeting convened by the anti-imperialist committee, to take place at 1330 at the headquarters of the Federation of Progressive Unions (FPU), to launch a campaign for protection against the war.

Moreover, the GWF came out strongly yesterday against the decision by the Ministry of Regional Administrations to apply a municipal tax to the premises of the labor unions. In fact, some unions have already received notice to pay the municipal tax.

"The authorities concerned must understand that the labor unions are working voluntarily to safeguard the interests of workers. We do not operate as a commercial enterprise. We do not engage in business dealings. The application of the municipal tax to labor unions is a sign that the labor movement is threatened," declared unionists.

The latter, including Mr. B. Jhurry, Mr. Y. Sooklall, Mrs. C. Jonas, Mr. Y. Luchmonee, Mr. Paul Manon, Mr. Ramjan, Mr. Auchaybur, Mr. Kuppan, and Mr. N. Fortuno, expressed their displeasure at the decision by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and said that they intend to take action in the coming weeks to inform the workers.

The GWF will have talks with the National Trade Union Council, and plans to send an official letter to the Ministry of Regional Administrations to express its displeasure.

On another subject, the GWF drew the attention of the press to the exploitation of workers by dishonest businessmen who have taken to stocking basic food commodities.

"During this time of war, businessmen have stocked a variety of goods. The black market exists. Workers are still generally living in fear."

The GWF wants to know why there is a shortage of frozen fish on the local market despite the import of 650 tons of fish. The trade union has invited the government to set up a special unit to be responsible for the equitable distribution of foodstuffs and other goods to shop owners.

"It is unfortunate to note that the government has created a climate of fear. Now our leaders must assume their responsibility and pay attention to the workers to solve a number of problems."

According to the GWF, some businessmen and shop owners refuse to sell large quantities of cooking oil to consumers. The trade union also referred to the elimination of the double cut system, and expressed its satisfaction with the government's decision.

"The government took the right step and we hope that it will adopt other measures to improve these working conditions and the salary of working men and women in the free zone."

The GWF will hold a special meeting on 22 January 1991 to have an in-depth discussion on the amount of the minimum wage to be granted to workers. The assembly of delegates that will meet on 31 January will ratify the decision of the union leaders and a strategy will be worked out for the union campaign.

* Kenya To Invite Industries To Invest in ZF

91AF0545B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN 12 Jan 91 p 5

[Article by Jean-Marc Poche]

[Text] A large delegation from Kenya is expected to arrive in Mauritius in the coming weeks to invite Mauritian industrialists to invest in what will be Kenya's first free zone, now in the process of being created.

A conference organized by the consulting firm Coopers and Lybrand Deloitte (CLD) will be held during their visit. According to CLD's director, Mr. Noel Chong Ah Yan, Kenya's free zone is inspired by Mauritius' free zone but will be limited to a specific region.

Investors will receive the same tax incentives as those granted by Mauritius and will have, in addition, a large pool of cheap labor at their disposal.

Unlike the arrangement in Madagascar where industrialists were invited to build their own facilities, Kenya already has a park containing several industrial buildings, developed by an international company, Firestone East Africa, Ltd.

This same company is in charge of developing Kenya's industrial free zone.

A large-scale publicity campaign will be launched in Mauritius in the coming days by Coopers and Lybrand Deloitte.

* Drought Said Increasing CEB Use of Fuel Oil

91AF0558A Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
12 Jan 91 p 1

[Article entitled: "Fifteen-Percent Hike in CEB's Heavy Fuel Consumption"; italicized words published in English]

[Text] The Central Electricity Board (CEB) has lately been using 15 percent more fuel oil, compared to the same period in 1990, to drive the turbines that produce electrical energy.

The greater use of fuel oil at this time of year is due to the strong demand for electrical energy that coincides with the acute drought.

CEB officials told L'EXPRESS that the board faces the drought problem at the same time every year and must consequently rely on the thermal station for all its energy.

Should it rain, the CEB would sharply reduce its use of the thermal station and would turn to the hydroelectric stations to produce the electricity.

In the event of an armed conflict in the Gulf, a CEB spokesperson intimated that the necessary measures would be taken, but that no strategy has yet been officially outlined.

For now the CEB is closely watching the situation in the Gulf, in order to update an emergency plan in case of acute problems in maintaining its supplies of petroleum products, especially fuel oil.

* Industries in Trade Zone Hit by Drought

91AF0554B Port Louis THE SUN in French
11 Jan 91 pp 1, 12

[Text] The drought that has hit the country has affected industries in the trade zone, particularly dyeworks.

According to a study done by MEPZA [Mauritius Export Processing Zone Association] yesterday morning, plants in the northern part of the trade zone have no water problems because most of them are supplied by bore holes.

In Plaine Lauzun, the problem mainly affects the sanitation system, which cannot operate without water. It is most acutely felt in Coromandel, where six to eight dyeworks accustomed to an adequate water supply round the clock now have water for only 12 hours.

Along with this serious difficulty, low pipe pressure means it takes over a half hour for water to reach reservoirs compared with the customary five minutes. As a result, plants can work only 15 minutes out of every hour. One can imagine the problem this causes, with production nearly at a halt. It is a kind of technical unemployment for workers who are still paid normally, meaning major losses for companies affected.

There is also a water shortage in the Phoenix industrial trade zone that did not just begin in recent weeks. Moreover, well before New Year's, a meeting of MEPZA, CWA [expansion unknown], and other officials concerned has already been scheduled for Tuesday.

One Ministry of Energy official questioned told us the problem now being experienced by the Coromandel industrial zone stems from the fact that the zone is supplied by the Pierrefonds reservoir, which also supplies Pailles and the port.

From 1900 until 0500 hours, water is cut off to the Coromandel industrial zone so that two other sectors, Pailles and the port, can be supplied. It must also be emphasized that after being cut off, water takes a certain amount of time to return to its normal route in the distribution system. The same official informed us that industries in the Coromandel trade zone must therefore coordinate production so as to derive maximum benefit from the difficult situation that has befallen us.

In addition, he pointed out that it was in order to meet this problem that the government and Minister of Energy Mahen Utchanah in particular became interested in the construction of the Sir Anerood Jugnauth Dam, costing 1.5 billion rupees. Once the reservoir is completed, supplying water to both the Coromandel and Plaine Lauzun trade zones will no longer be a problem.

* Rice Supply Assured for 5 Months

91AF0618A Port Louis THE SUN in French
22 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] The minister of trade and navigation, Dwarakanath Gungah, had a particularly busy time yesterday morning as he held successive meetings with the shop owners operating in the first ten districts of the country.

In the presence of Joseph Wong, president of the Shop Owners Association, and technicians from the Commerce and Navigation Ministry, Mr. Gungah made it known to these businessmen that the price of rice would not increase and that the country had a stock that could easily last up to five months. Thus there is no need to stock it illegally.

The minister also indicated that the merchants need not worry about having enough rice to meet the demand of their customers because they will be supplied with the number of sacks of rice they need.

* Hotel Chain Reports Drop in Occupancy

91AF0617A Port Louis THE SUN in French
25 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] In response to our question, the commercial director of Sun Resorts Ltd., Arnaud Martin, confirmed that the occupancy rate of the three hotels belonging to this group had in fact declined. However, he did not want to give us the figures for this decline over the telephone.

He is convinced that the decline will grow during the first quarter of the year.

* Damage From Tropical Storm Bella Assessed

91AF0663A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
1 Feb 91 p 1

[Article by Koomara Venkatasamy]

[Text] In Rodrigues, cyclone "Bella" has taken a catastrophic toll affecting agriculture, electricity, the water supply, and homes: 200 houses were destroyed or damaged and four persons were injured.

The sight in Port Mathurin this morning was one of desolation as the minister for Rodrigues, Mr. Serge Clair, met all of the island's department and division heads to start the process of assessing damage caused by the cyclone. The meeting was held in the main offices of the resident commissioner on Jenner Street. Minister Clair led the meeting with Mr. Kwet On, assistant to the commissioner, the commissioner, Mr. Jacques Cunden, left Mauritius this morning for Rodrigues. The meeting, which lasted from 0900 to 1100, produced a provisional assessment indicating that the situation in Rodrigues is catastrophic.

Following the meeting, Minister Clair and several officials set out on a damage inspection tour of the island. The agricultural sector, it should be noted, appears to be the most seriously affected, according to officials at the Island Commissioner's office who spoke of losses on the order of 100 percent in a telephone interview this morning. Several of the island's roads were seriously damaged like the road between Port Mathurin and English Bay. In addition, other roads are obstructed by trees and branches rendering them impassible.

The electrical supply network is out of order, and as of this morning efforts were being made to restore power supply to essential services. Damage to the power supply network is estimated at 60 percent. The telephone system has also suffered substantial damage. A survey is under way to determine the exact extent of the damage.

The number of houses seriously damaged or destroyed is reported to be 200. The Sainte Famille school located in Latanier was seriously hit. There is talk of "heavy losses" of cattle. The country's forests have suffered damage on the order of 40 percent.

A serious problem is posed by the disruption of drinking water supply after pipes were damaged in several regions. Reservoirs have been obstructed.

The four persons injured in Bella's wake have received treatment at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Creve Coeur.

We emphasize that the class-4 alert that went into effect in the Rodrigues area at 1900 Wednesday was lifted yesterday at 2115. This morning the weather station forecast a gradual calming in the Rodrigues area. Bella's closest approach to the island came at 0800 yesterday morning when it was 50 kilometers to the west. Peak wind speeds of 211 kilometers per hour were recorded.

* Drought Assessment: Rains 'Insufficient'

91AF0663B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
2 Feb 91 p 4

[Article by Habib Mosaheb]

[Text] The Chamber of Agriculture is conducting a study to assess the impact of the drought on crop production (food crops and sugarcane). Two questionnaires have been sent to planters and mill operators/planters for this purpose.

For its part, the ministry of agriculture's extension service is conducting a survey of small planters also with the purpose of assessing the drought's impact. The data gathered in these two studies will be made available to the Drought Assessment Committee, most likely next week.

The committee, which was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture, is composed of upper level officials from the ministry and representatives of the Chamber of Agriculture, MSIRI [Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute], the weather bureau, Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation, the Irrigation Authority, the Marketing Board, and the Ministry of Co-operatives.

Its purpose is to evaluate the impact of the drought on food crops and to suggest solutions to revive agricultural production.

At a meeting Thursday, the Drought Assessment Committee noted that the rainfall associated with cyclone "Bella" was far from sufficient for agriculture, particularly in the northern and western regions, which have been hardest hit by the six-month-old drought.

In other matters, the committee believes that Mauritius's seed stocks are sufficient for 1991 and that Mauritius will not have to import seeds, unless drought conditions persist.

We remind readers that 65 to 70 percent of food crops are produced in the districts of Moka, Savane, Plaines Wilhems, and Flacq. These regions have been less affected by the drought than the north.

* Drought Outweighs Oil Concerns for Rodriguez

91AF0558B Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
15 Jan 91 p 3

[Article entitled: "Rodriguez Islanders More Worried About the Drought Than the War"; italicized words published in English]

[Text] Rodriguez Islanders are more fearful of a protraction of the drought, which has lasted since January of last year, than of an outbreak of war in the Gulf. Rationing of basic foodstuffs is something they know about, since it has been in effect on the island for quite some time.

So said Mr. John Franklin Kwet On, substitute *Island Commissioner*, on the phone to L'EXPRESS yesterday.

"The population of Rodriguez is not as concerned about the war as Mauritians are," he stated. "It listens to the news, follows the events, but does not feel that what is happening in the Gulf is a direct threat to it." Rodriguez Islanders are much more concerned about the protracted drought that has struck the island for many long months, and which is the main preoccupation of the island's inhabitants, most of them farmers.

A series of prayer meetings have begun to be organized in different regions of Rodriguez. "We pray first for rain, and only after that war will not break out."

Yesterday morning Minister Serge Clair gathered together all the merchants—about 200 for a population of 40,000 inhabitants—to talk to them about the supply situation that could arise if war were declared. Stress was not placed on rationing, which is in effect in Rodriguez, but on the temptation some merchants might feel to take advantage of the situation through *profiteering*. The merchants assured the administration that they would follow instructions to the letter.

Mr. Kwet On told L'EXPRESS that Rodriguez now has normal reserves for a two-month period: that is, rice and sugar for three months; gasoline and kerosene for two months; natural gas and diesel oil for a month; and cooking oil for 45 days.

* Campaign for Motorists To Save Gas Outlined

91AF0554C Port Louis THE SUN in French
10 Jan 91 p 7

[Text] Next Tuesday the Ministry of Public Works will launch its campaign aimed at promoting gas conservation by automobile drivers.

At a press conference yesterday morning, Minister of Public Works Ramduth Jaddoo, accompanied by several officials including ministry permanent secretary Sandra

Mootoosamy, principal economist Gerard Ignace, and transport planner Raouf Nabeebaccus, announced that the campaign goal is to achieve an average 10-percent gas conservation nationally, representing a savings on the order of 8.1 million liters or 90.6 million rupees a year.

For Jaddoo, Mauritius is going through a difficult period and we must adapt to an oil crisis for the third time in 18 years. The country's oil bill could foreseeably go up by 1.5 billion rupees this year if the price of crude remains at an average \$40 a barrel.

Starting Monday, automobile drivers may obtain a brochure containing driving tips and explaining adjustments that can be made in car engines to improve mileage. The brochure may be obtained at any Caltex, Shell, or Total service station.

The ministry also hopes to launch a pilot project early next month (Executive Coach Service) enabling persons who usually drive to their offices in Port Louis to travel by bus rather than car. This "semideluxe" service will enable white-collar workers commuting daily to work in Port Louis to travel in comfort on an "express" bus. Fare from Curepipe, Vacoas, and Quatre Bornes to Port Louis has been set at 25 rupees. The minister also appealed to such workers to car pool and thus avoid single-passenger commuting.

The minister also announced the introduction of paid parking in the near future. A committee set up by the Ministry of Public Works is now hard at work on a plan to turn certain streets in our cities into pedestrian walkways.

Within the next two weeks, the ministry expects to receive the preliminary report on the light metro.

* Economic Signals Warn of 'Trouble'

91AF0504A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 28 Dec 90 p 3

[Excerpt] Sun, sea, sand and success. In French, English, Creole, Hindi or Chinese, Mauritius' polyglot people say their little Indian Ocean island has it all.

But trouble is brewing beneath the surface of a tropical paradise that is one of sub-Saharan Africa's new prosperous economies.

Latest figures show the biggest monthly jump in inflation for 10 years, growth sagging and trade headed for a record gap of six billion Mauritian rupees (430 million dollars) in 1990.

The once dynamic Export Processing Zone (EPZ) has contracted from a peak in 1988 and businessmen say wage rises risk pricing the key sector—cheap clothing—out of Western markets.

"The problem is one of (our) own success," said Industry Minister Cassam Uteem.

"The EPZ has absorbed almost all the unemployed people so that now we're facing not an unemployment problem...but a lack of employable people," he said. [passage omitted]

Now the labour squeeze is undermining the Mauritian boast that its one million people are an African model of success to rival the Asian economic "tigers."

"Jobs have been so easy to find...that there's no sector of society that really works hard," said one local banker. "Now the economy is in trouble, no one knows what to do about it."

Ministers, who may face a general election next year after a new government was formed in September, appear in no mood to tell voters they might have to tighten their belts.

"Those in power seem to think the good times are going to go on forever," said Guy Ollivry, leader of one of several small opposition parties, the Mauritian Democratic Union.

Economic figures show a bleaker picture.

Despite 20 years of diversification, growth remains tied to the 200-year-old sugar industry and vulnerable to the changeable maritime climate of both drought years and violent storms.

The latest official forecast that growth will rise to 6.3 percent in 1990 from last year's 3.8 percent is due to a recovery in sugar after two cyclones hit output in 1989.

Excluding sugar, growth is forecast to slow to 5.5 percent from 6.2, below the average 9.1 percent of the preceding three years. Prospects for 1991 are clouded by the Gulf crisis.

Wage rises are also feeding inflation as consumers demand more high-priced imports, a trend now accelerated by rising fuel costs because of the Gulf crisis.

A 4.4 percent jump in inflation in September—the biggest monthly rise since 1980—dashed official forecasts that inflation would slow this year from 1989's 12.6 percent.

Officials now expect prices to rise 14 percent this year, the fastest annual rate since 1981. "Nobody likes double-digit inflation," Central Bank governor Indur Ramphul said.

But he said there were no plans to try to bolster the value of the rupee to combat price rises—a higher currency cuts the cost of imported goods—as this could damage exports.

"Mauritius is an export orientated economy and it's going to stay that way," he said.

To help overcome labour bottlenecks, the Government wants textile manufacturers who dominate the EPZ to switch to more profitable, up-market garments and to automate factories.

Uteem said fresh incentives for new EPZ firms in less labour-intensive areas such as electronics or jewellery are being planned for the next budget in June 1991.

Some industrialists, however, say they are wary of spending heavily on capital equipment or branching into new markets.

They are looking instead for cheaper labour from abroad—either by importing workers from poorer neighbours or setting up factories in the next-door Indian Ocean island of Madagascar.

"There has been a push toward Madagascar where the labour is cheaper and (basic) garments can be made profitably," said Sir Pierre Dalais, president of Floreal Knitwear, the country's largest textile group which now also operates in Madagascar.

In the sugar sector, experts say labour shortages are becoming critical for the 35,000 small planters as youths leave family farms for jobs in the EPZ or the island's luxury hotels. Tourism is the third pillar of the economy.

Meanwhile, Mauritius' dependence on sugar—the island's biggest net foreign exchange earner—looks set to continue.

"When we ask experts what crop they would like us to replace sugar with they keep mum," said Maurice Patureau, head of the joint economic committee, which represents business interests.

* Farmers Urged To Up Agricultural Production

91AF0558D Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
16 Jan 91 p 5

[Article entitled: "An Emergency Plan To Boost Agricultural Production"; italicized words published in English]

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture has set up a special committee responsible for drafting an emergency plan for agricultural production in the event of a prolonged war in the Gulf.

The committee's first meeting was scheduled for yesterday.

It brings together representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Chamber of Agriculture, the *Marketing Board*, and MSIRI (Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute).

"We hope to be ready with the plan by next week. We are working in close collaboration with the *Gulf Crisis Committee*," an official of the Ministry of Agriculture told LE MAURICIEN.

At the Ministry of Agriculture, it is pointed out that the principal basic foodstuffs, namely rice and flour, are imported.

Local production mainly involves potatoes, and it would be possible, in the event of a protracted war, to turn to other products, such as sweet potatoes, manioc, or corn, said an Agriculture Ministry official.

The person with whom we spoke, however, noted that agricultural production cannot be boosted overnight.

We learned that the emergency plan will propose a series of measures to encourage planters to cultivate more vegetables and other food products.

MOZAMBIQUE

* Minister Warns Against Minerals Trafficking

91AF0490F Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
22 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] John Kachamila, minister of mineral resources, said the authorities linked to security must be more careful to distinguish between illegal and legal commercial activities by small businesses and individuals connected with Small-Scale Mineral Extraction (ETPE), which the government is attempting to develop within the framework of the policy for the sector. The minister was speaking Thursday at the closing session of the national conference on small-scale mineral extraction, which began last Tuesday in the nation's capital.

The reason for his plea was to permit duly licensed small-scale miners to engage fully in marketing their production, which the conference defined as "viable" at the production sites.

In this regard, the minister stressed that security measures should be conducted on the basis of the new conclusions to come out of the conference, which recommended the liberalization of small-scale mineral extraction involving individuals and associations of small businessmen, who will be licensed for this purpose.

On that occasion, John Kachamila reported that his sector would be involved in drafting a proposal to be submitted to other government agencies, regarding the methods to be employed in defense of the interests of small-scale trade in minerals.

He stressed that there are individuals in Mozambique who are interested in pursuing this activity, although it is not traditional in the country.

Alluding to the need to protect the interests of those involved in the development of small-scale mineral extraction, the minister presented guidelines for the neutralization of individuals who might come to jeopardize this initiative.

John Kachamila said there were examples of countries that had witnessed the disappearance of part of their mining activity because of the [illegal] trafficking in the resulting products.

According to the minister, the Mozambican Government will provide all the support needed to put an end to this type of situation.

Referring to the conduct expected of the small mining entrepreneurs, the minister of mineral resources said they must not think that the purpose of small-scale mining is to make the greatest possible profit in the shortest time.

He said that small-scale mining does not imply only gold or precious stones, such as diamonds, but other valuable minerals that attract great interest.

He urged the new small-scale mining entrepreneurs to seek out information on the techniques of geological and mineral research, which is available at the Intermediate Institute of Geology and Mining, founded in Tete in 1987.

Presenting a summary of the conference, Casimiro Francisco, national director of mines, said that small-scale mining could contribute to the discovery of new deposits and mineral reserves.

The summary notes that, with the law of mines in effect, there is a new juridical framework for controlling and regulating small-scale mining activity and fostering investment.

The conference recommended that the government encourage and support various mining initiatives, but without involving itself directly in mining activity.

One of the measures advocated in the three-day conference was the creation of a fund for the lease of equipment and financial assistance as a means to encourage mining activity.

*** Nacala Railway to Niassa Province Restored**

91AF0490A Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
27 Dec 90 p 1

[Article by Domingos Mossela]

[Text] After several years in which almost no trains ran between Lichinga, capital of Niassa Province, in northern Mozambique, and the port of Nacala, in Nampula Province, since May of this year railway transport has been partially restored on that line. On 9 December, the Mozambican news agency AIM witnessed the arrival, in Lichinga, of the seventh train from Nampula, carrying a variety of merchandise.

According to Daniel Manuel Tovela, provincial director of transportation in Niassa, the seventh train to stop at Lichinga this year left Nampula on 21 November. Under

normal conditions, the trip between Nampula and Lichinga takes less than 24 hours.

The railway paralysis began in 1983, when activity of the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] affected Nampula and Niassa provinces. At that time, according to official sources, the Renamo began dismantling the railroad and attacking trains, particularly in the interior of Nampula and sometimes in Niassa.

According to the provincial director of transportation, only two trains traveled between Lichinga and Nampula in 1989.

"With the arrival of the seventh train in Lichinga, we have now had a train every month since May and we would like this situation to continue," Daniel Tovela said.

Railway and highway transport are the only guarantee of getting merchandise from Maputo and from the central and northern zones to Niassa Province, since the province has no link to the sea. Mozambique Airlines (LAM) has only two flights a week to Lichinga and at this time they are almost exclusively carrying passengers.

Giving a brief accounting of the transport sector in Niassa, Tovela explained to the AIM that the delayed arrival of trains in Lichinga today is basically because of the poor condition of the road, the limited number of locomotives, and the constant sabotage of our rail lines by the Renamo, particularly on the Cuamba-Lichinga line. The town of Cuamba, in southern Niassa, is 262 km from the province capital.

Tovela said that there had been constant sabotage on the line between the stations at Mitande and Itepela, in Mandimba District, in southwestern Niassa Province. The Mitande station is 154 km from Lichinga and 108 km from Cuamba, while the distance between Itepela and Lichinga is 78 km.

Daniel Tovela said the Renamo action along that line consists in dismantling the line, normally diverting about 60 meters of track.

"When the war began to affect Niassa Province in 1983, the trains began to carry emergency teams that include military security and railway workers, who reposition the sabotaged track," we learned from a source at the Lichinga station, who asked to remain anonymous.

The source said the engineers on the trains were instructed to proceed with caution along that line. According to official sources, the Cuamba-Lichinga line was completed in the 1970's and no improvements have been made since that time.

The sources revealed, however, that the Railway Company is making an effort to rehabilitate this line.

According to director Tovela, the Mozambique-North Railway is currently giving priority to the transport of

fuels, fertilizers, building materials, and emergency materials to Niassa Province.

He said that, from January to November, the Nampula-Lichinga line has handled 6,000 tons of various cargo.

The arrival of the seventh train at the Lichinga train was greeted by a large crowd of relatives, friends, and acquaintances of the passengers, as well as curious onlookers. The station, located on the outskirts of the province capital, also attracted vendors from area markets, seeking to acquire mangos, dried fish, and peanuts, among other products shipped from Nampula Province and from the town of Chamba and the locality of Mitanda, both in Mandimba District in southwestern Niassa Province.

Some individuals approached by the AIM did not hide their pleasure that rail traffic has been resumed between Nampula and Lichinga, since they feel isolated in Niassa Province because of the effects of the war.

"The trip was very short, compared to the one I made last year," said a woman of about 30, who was accompanied by her son.

The woman, who asked not to be identified, said she had carried a sack of corn flour, some dried fish, salt and nhemba beans to eat on the trip.

"I got on the train in Cuamba and I am coming to meet my husband, who works here in Lichinga," she said, adding that, when she made the trip in 1989, it took two months to travel the 262 km between Lichinga and Cuamba.

* Zambezia Fishing Industry Regenerated

91AF0490G Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
25 Dec 90 p 2

[Text] More than half the total industrial production of Zambezia Province is concentrated in the fishing sector, which has been registering notable growth since the Economic Recovery Program was launched in January 1987.

Baisamo Marcelino, chief of the planning department of the Provincial Planning Commission of Zambezia, mentioned shrimp, fish, lobster, soap, coconut oil, and copra bagasse as strategic products now produced in the province; he excluded the mining sector, which is completely idled because of the action of the armed bandits.

Regarding the fishing sector, which accounted for 60 percent of all the industrial production in the area, Baisamo Marcelino presented some figures illustrating the results obtained in the first six months of this year, notably with regard to shrimp, one of the strategic export products.

In the first half of this year, the fishing sector caught 1,092 tons of fish, including 768 tons of shrimp, whereas, in 1989, total production came to 2,146 tons, including 1,516 tons of shrimp.

"Based on these data, and bearing in mind that our fishing sector is still developing, it is hoped that in the final balance for this year, production will exceed that of last year, particularly for shrimp and lobster," Baisamo Marcelino remarked.

Shrimp Exports

More than 90 percent of the shrimp catch in Zambezia Province is destined for export, and the rest is for domestic consumption.

The volume set aside for export is determined by the total production during a particular campaign, which explains the annual variation in the shrimp export figures.

This year the province has exported 672 tons of shrimp and 121 tons of lobster to Japan, and it is expected that these figures will be doubled by the end of the year, if fishing conditions are favorable.

The largest companies engaged in the capture and marketing of fish in that area of the country are EFRIPEL (Mozambique Fish Cold Storage, Ltd), a Mozambican-Japanese joint company, and the state company Emope-sca, which has seen a substantial decline in production because a large part of its fleet is out of commission.

As a result of these problems, according to our source, the company has laid off a significant number of workers, who are being absorbed by another fishing company that is being formed by Mozambique and Spain.

Thus, EFRIPEL and individual fishermen are largely responsible for the fish catch achieved in the province.

It is indicative of its efficiency that EFRIPEL has recently built a fishing pier at the port of Quelimane. In addition to ensuring that the fish will be processed quickly, the pier will make for more profitable fishing by enabling the boats to spend more time at sea. Moreover, the pier will eliminate the long lines that have been forming for some time at the commercial dock at the port of Quelimane, where the fish was unloaded.

Other Strategic Products

In addition to fish, Baisamo Marcelino mentioned coconut oil, copra bagasse, and soap as other strategic products that are important to the province, since they bring in foreign exchange as well as meeting domestic demands.

Geralco, a manufacturing unit that produces oil and soap, is currently limiting operations to its soap plant, and is only producing enough to supply the province.

Because copra production has been poor in the region, it is not supplying soap to Sofala Province.

Regarding the coconut oil plant, the source said it was shut down while work was in progress to rehabilitate the installations.

Taking in the shoe, clothing, furniture, and cashew processing sector, small industry in Zambezia has been experiencing considerable difficulty since the Economic Recovery Plan was implemented, Marcelino said.

In the textile industry, for example, the Zambezia Blanket Factory, the only unit that has been functioning in the province for several years now, is currently idle, after operating at well below normal for the last three years because of financial difficulties.

As a result, its workers have been transferred to other areas of activity in the province; negotiations are in progress to transfer the unit to another company, which will undertake to put it back in operation.

*** Zambezia Official Reports Rise in Unemployment**

91AF0490B Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
27 Dec 90 p 8

[Text] About 5,000 people in Zambezia Province are currently unemployed. The number, which has been growing since the implementation of the Economic Recovery Program, does not include the war refugees concentrated in the urban areas, our reporter learned from sources linked to planning in that area of the country.

Baikama Marcelino, chief of the Planning Department of the Zambezia Province Planning Commission, told this newspaper that since the Economic Recovery Program was implemented, an average of 1,660 people a year have applied for jobs.

Over 730 job candidates have been placed in various sectors of activity—an average of 246 placements a year since the start of the Economic Recovery Program.

One factor that has contributed to the significant rise in unemployment in Zambezia is the activity of the armed bandits, which has forced some of the large industrial units in the province to shut down and has destroyed their infrastructures.

For example, the Lobito Sugar Plant, which is shut down, would normally employ about 3,000 workers, according to Baisamo Marcelino.

"Another problem which makes it difficult to reduce unemployment is that fact that factory workers, office boys and such are not finding placement because of the limited job openings in these areas."

The reduced production capacity in most sectors, such as copra, tea, sugar, cotton, sisal and mining, among others,

has led companies to lay off large numbers of workers, including skilled workers and shop assistants.

Although there are job openings in the large agroindustrial complexes that are still in operation, the lack of professional and educational qualifications of the unemployed makes it difficult to place them.

In Quelimane City, our reporter observed that the unemployment problem is one of the great concerns of everyday life. An example of this is the proliferation of people engaged in small businesses on street corners, from the sale of used clothing and various trinkets to food products and what, in Maputo is called "dumbanengue."

From the low price of the goods, generally cheaper than the price charged in shops, it is inferred that this activity is basically a means of survival.

For many people, the alternative to unemployment is the sale of "sura," a [fermented] beverage typical of the province, since it is made from the coconuts that are plentiful in that part of the country.

*** Community Development Association Formed**

91AF0490C Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
28 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] The Community Development Association (ADC) was formed yesterday afternoon in Maputo. A private institution with legal standing, the ADC is a nonprofit association in the public interest, in support of the economically disadvantaged.

Yesterday, moments after the public signing of the legal documents, the provisional organs of the association were elected; namely, the directorate and its fiscal council, chaired, respectively, by Dr. Encias Comiche and Abdul Magid Osman. The directorate also includes Dr. Dinis Sengulane and Raimundo Pachinuapa, as first and second vice presidents, and Graca Machel and Rui Baltazar, as first and second voting members.

Before the signing ceremony, Sa Graca Machel presented a report on the activities in preparation for the creation of the ADC. She said that the difficult socioeconomic circumstances of most of the population of Mozambique and the lack of institutions to work with communities to solve their problems are among the reasons that led this group of Mozambicans to create a community development foundation.

As other reasons behind this initiative, she cited the need to foster a broad sense of national solidarity and of international solidarity with Mozambique, to support initiatives by the communities for their development and the solution to their problems, and to complement the economic and social development efforts of the government and other organizations.

Graca Machel said an equally important factor was the awareness that support for initiatives originating with

the communities and for their benefit will result in medium- and long-range solutions, calling for the creation of institutions that will endure and that may also be used by future generations.

"To this end, we have taken action both inside and outside the country. Some steps have been taken to ascertain how well this initiative will be accepted, whether it is valid, and what support it might come to receive, and also to publicize its underlying objectives," Machel stressed.

On that occasion, she said the primary objective of the Foundation for Community Development is to promote community-based development activities for the benefit of the less advantaged groups in both rural and urban areas.

* Flourishing Traffic in Gemstones Noted

91AF0490D Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
25 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] More than 10 people have been arrested in Nampula this year, charged with illegal possession of precious and semiprecious stones.

The Mozambican news agency AIM learned this from a police source who was in Maputo to attend the conference on small-scale mineral exploitation, which ended Thursday.

Alberto Mulhovo, chief of the Transport and Communications Police [PTC] in Nampula City, said a large number of people could be involved in this activity.

The arrests took place at the Nampula airport, when the suspects were attempting to transport the various stones to Maputo, which is the center of this trade and where the contraband is sold at exorbitant prices, depending on the type of stone.

The practice is gaining ground in the country, and involves citizens from varied ranks and social strata.

According to the police source, the quantity of gemstones in the possession of these individuals has not been significant.

Again according to the source, some individuals who hold mining licenses have attempted to bypass the legal formalities that govern the possession of gemstones and other valuable minerals.

The stones are mined in Zambezia Province, in the center of the country, in regions bordering on Nampula Province, farther north.

However, the traffickers prefer to take off from Nampula, which has better transport links to Maputo, where the merchandise is marketed illegally.

During the meeting, some holders of mining licenses complained of being subjected to what they consider police "persecution" when they have valuable minerals in their possession.

Speaking at the conference, Chief Mulhovo said this should not be seen as "persecution," but as "action to see that the law is obeyed and to discipline the dishonest."

Under laws regarding the possession of valuable minerals, the licensees are obligated to obtain official documentation issued by the Ministry of Mineral Resources.

If they live in a province, the legal formalities are the responsibility of the provincial directorate or of the "Gemas e Pedras Lapidadas" company ("GPL"), the institution authorized to purchase stones from the licensees and to sell them.

According to Mulhovo, sometimes it happens that the quantity of minerals listed in the documents in possession of the licensee or other individual is not consistent with the quantity transported after the merchandise is weighed at the PTC inspection posts at the airport.

"The police will continue to take action against those who engage in this activity," he promised the audience, adding that the authorities have never diverted gemstones that have been seized for lack of legal documentation.

On the same question, a participant asked if there was any control over individuals who travel in planes that leave the province without being subjected to police inspection, such as the "Antonovs" and light planes.

There is currently some control over the flow into Nampula of many people who illegally purchase precious stones, to be sold or traded for automobiles acquired in South Africa or Swaziland by smugglers.

* More Women Practicing Family Planning

91AF0490E Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
15 Dec 90 p 3

[Excerpt] A considerable number of women in Maputo City are currently practicing family planning, it was reported at the Maternal-Infant Health Conference, which ended today in the capital. The idea is "cooling off," however, because of the shortage of contraceptives since last year.

In illustration of this point, 22,647 family planning consultations were conducted in 1989 and this year the number dropped to 19,211 consultations, or 53.4 percent of the number of consultations established in the plan. As we said, the decline resulted from the break in the "stock" of contraceptives that has been observed since last year in Maputo City.

According to a document presented to the conference by the SMI/PF [Maternal-Infant Health/Family Planning] section of the City Health Directorate, despite these

obstacles, more and more women have been seeking information regarding contraceptive methods.

"Because of the decline in stock, the health workers have had to make a switch from the method chosen and preferred by the women, who are obliged to use a different method. This often results in a loss of motivation and they give up family planning," the document states, adding that "the program will only be successful when the conditions are created to permit a regular supply of contraceptives." [passage omitted]

SEYCHELLES

* Michel Reaffirms Need for Military

91AF0546A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 3 Jan 91 pp 1-2

[Text] The Seychelles People's Defence Forces (SPDF) will always be there to safeguard the country's sovereignty and protect the gains of the Seychellois society. Chief of Staff James Michel told members of the forces during his traditional new year's tour of military units.

Mr Michel who visited the units on Tuesday and yesterday also expressed wishes for a happy and prosperous 1991 to all SPDF members and their relatives.

After conveying the greetings of the SPDF Commander-in-Chief, President Albert Rene, he was asked by the station commanders to reassure the head of State of the forces total loyalty and support.

Mr Michel dismissed suggestions that Seychelles did not need a military force following detente between the United States and the Soviet Union.

He pointed out that it was every country's right to have an army or military force to defend itself and its national sovereignty against aggression.

"Why should Seychelles be an exception? Has the United States or the USSR dismantled both their armies?" the SPDF Chief of Staff asked.

Mr Michel also expressed appreciation of the force's valuable contribution in various development projects, notably in the construction field.

At the Navy base, he cited the airstrip on Assomption Island as being the most important recent example of such achievement.

Mr Michel also called on all SPDF members to show more motivation in their efforts to consolidate our new society, during 1991.

"We should look back over the past year and resolve to correct our little weaknesses and failures," he said.

Referring to President Rene's New Year message and his call for more unity, Mr Michel noted this was now very necessary if the Seychellois society is to continue on the road of progress.

"This unity should be strengthened between us, in the SPDF, in our family and throughout the country," he urged.

* Finance Minister on 1991 Budget

91AF0561A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 16 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Starting today SEYCHELLES NATION's weekly Economic/Business page is offering readers a series of articles on various aspects of the 1991 Budget. Today's article is an introduction to the series written by economists from the Ministry of Finance.

Government announces a balanced budget for 1991.

Private sector participation in economy high on the agenda.

No new taxes to be introduced; Government to reduce outlays by R71 [rupees] million.

Diversification of the economy a major objective of future policy.

New Pension scheme introduced.

Minimum wage increased by one Entry Point level for public sector employees. Private sector encouraged to follow suit.

In his budget address for the new year the Minister for Finance Mr James Michel announced that a balanced budget has been targeted for 1991, the first such budget for over ten years. This fiscal stance has been taken as a "preventive" measure to provide the Government with "weapons to tackle future adverse developments" and "the expected downturn in worldwide economic activity" in particular.

In the light of the current economic situation, the tightening of the fiscal stance is a welcome development. It would be a major achievement if a balanced budget is realised effectively. In most developing countries, Seychelles being no exception, traditional countercyclical fiscal policy would simply exacerbate external imbalances as a slump is likely to be associated with balance of payments and supply constraints. When faced with a situation of low foreign reserves, fiscal policy should be used to accentuate the decline in real incomes in response to the balance of payments constraint. Another option is to incur foreign borrowing; although this option is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive.

The balancing of the government budget will be achieved despite no new tax measures although the Minister hoped that with better tax policing "better compliance with existing tax laws are a key to achieving better revenues much more than resorting to the easier way of introducing new taxes." The capital expenditure program has been spared the axe as the amount to be spent is the same as 1990. The disbursement side of the budget therefore takes the brunt of the adjustment with current

expenditure of the ministries and departments as a whole expecting to make a saving of R22 million over their expenditure of last year. A big part (R135 million) of that saving will come from the reform of the secondary school system which will curtail the National Youth Service to one year.

The major cut that has been projected comes from advances to parastatals and from subventions, presumably to parastatals as well. The first will be reduced by no less than R56 million whilst the second R21 million. Air Seychelles will not receive a cent from the Treasury during the year compared to government subventions of R195 million in 1990. No details of the lending to parastatals, or how and where the saving is expected to be made, have been released. It is believed that the Seychelles Housing Development Corporation [SHDC] will not receive much funds from the government coffers in the coming year and will have to seek their own financing preferably from abroad. An indication that this is already in the pipeline is the statement made by the Minister that "plans are on hand to ensure that as far as possible, there is no reduction in the housing programme of government to meet the pressing housing demands in our society."

The unabated continuation of the housing programme by the SHDC would to some extent negate the benefits derived from the balancing of the government budget. The reduction in consumption that is required to redress the foreign balances, as would have been the case with a tightening of fiscal policy, would not occur. It may be argued that the financing would be received from abroad, and that any foreign exchange disbursement would have already been paid for. This however, is only the short-term aspect of things as the construction of houses in particular bring with it additional expenditure almost all of which with foreign borrowing. That would imply that the foreign exchange implications [as published]. Moreover, the financing received from abroad would have to be repaid some day. Borrowing to build houses can be viewed as a "consumption loan" designed to accelerate present consumption without the returns necessary to service the foreign exchange would have to be found in the future for the servicing of the loans at a cost which the gains that would be realised by the foreign borrowing [as published].

It is in cases like this that the need to construct a Public Sector budget is apparent. Such a budget would incorporate the government and all parastatals in one set of accounts. This would be particularly useful when the capital account is looked at, as then all projects of the public sector would be included and not only those "budget dependent" ones. From these accounts the true stance of fiscal policy would be transparent and the appropriate macro economic response would result.

The theme, that pervaded the speech throughout was that of private sector participation "provided it is serious in nature and that there is no room for exploitation or quick profits." In his first budget presentation as

Minister for Finance last year, Mr Michel announced plans for private sector participation in certain parastatals and although no such development has occurred to date it is understood that plans are at an extended stage. Also last year the Minister said that proposals for a comprehensive investment guide would be studied. In this year's address he revealed that the Employer's Federation has been asked to make proposals which are now being studied by government and the guide should be completed during 1991. Private sector investment is being encouraged in housing and office accommodation which the Minister assured "can generate significant benefits to the investor."

Diversification of the economy is another theme that the minister expounded on. The government, he said realise the danger of being over-dependent on one activity, namely tourism and wish to explore the potential of economic diversification. "Significant resources to broaden the economic base" have been promised. It would appear that the minister is aware of the lags and delays in defining new areas of development and is worried for the interim period especially now that the Government-imposed ceiling on the number of beds available for tourists, for social and environmental reasons, is fast being reached. New areas that the Minister proposed worth looking into include exploitation of the marine resources, offshore banking insurance and fund management. He said that there is a need to "take calculated risks now in order to increase our dividends in the future." He reiterated the government's support to those engaged or wishing to engage in export or import-substitution and pointed to the refinance scheme being operated by the Central Bank. The commercial banks have been asked to cooperate with the scheme. The National Development Plan (1990-1994) which was launched during the course of 1990 was described as a "strategy of sustainable development (which) will translate into a plan for achieving...economic diversification...with emphasis on increasing our productive base and the creation of a climate conducive for small business, private investment individually or joint venture, and calculated risk-taking with commensurately higher returns."

Another major policy initiative that was announced was the creation of a new Pension Scheme which will "supplement the existing (Social Security) Fund which will require every employer to pay on account of each employee a sum of R50 per month. The employees contribution, however, will be voluntary. The Pension Scheme will provide at retirement a pension of monthly amounts based upon the employer's contribution and the employee's voluntary contribution.

The Government also announced that it was increasing the minimum wage in the public sector (i.e. including the parastatals) to R1,300 monthly from R1,200 previously. This increase has for intention to "help the less well-off...offset the effects of ever increasing costs of imported goods." The private sector is also to award the same increase to their employees.

The Minister also talked about the current foreign exchange liquidity problems and said that the policy initiatives that were taken to reduce the demand for imported goods having failed the Government was forced to introduce in October and November strict controls on import permits with the "object of restricting imports of non-essential and luxury goods." The Minister said that in "9 to 12 months we will have made significant progress in resolving the foreign currency problems." Exchange controls and the devaluation of the Rupee were categorically ruled out as policy options.

*** Initiative To Use Oil From Palmarosa Grass**

91AF0568B Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 9 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has started planting the palmarosa grass on Praslin for its oil.

Director for agricultural extension services Finley Racombo told SEYCHELLES NATION the oil, which had a rose-like scent, would be useful in the production of soaps and perfumes.

He said the project, funded at R140,000 [rupees] by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), was one of the ministry's efforts towards crop diversification.

"It is more important now that cinnamon oil extraction in Seychelles has become uneconomic due to high plucking cost," he explained.

The grass, named scientifically as *cymbopogon martinii* var. *motia*, originated from India and thrives even on soil of high alkalinity of pH9.

The project proved feasible in a study done on Praslin last year, and would yield oil that was six times more valuable than cinnamon oil, Mr Racombo said.

"After the oil is extracted through distillation, the by-product is useful as compost," he added.

An FAO expert on Praslin has set up a nursery at the Cote D'or farm, and is expected to transplant the grass on six ha [hectares] of land. Besides three ha at Cote D'or, 1.5 ha will be at Amitie and another ha at Anse Kerlan.

By the end of 1991, a total of 18 ha is expected to be planted with the grass.

Mr Racombo said a factory to extract the oil was expected to be set up on Praslin by April next year.

The oil is expected to be exported to the U.S. and England.

*** Immigration Put Under Defense Department**

91AF0568A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 7 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] The Immigration Division is now part of the Police Force in the Department of Defence, a communique from the Ministry of Administration and Manpower has announced.

The Immigration Division is headed by Mr Raymond Louise, formerly deputy commissioner of Police.

The change took effect from January 1. However, the Civil Status section remains with the Ministry of Administration and Manpower where it is part of the Management and Information Systems Division.

The Principal Secretary, Mr Errol Dias has been appointed the chief officer of Civil Status.

Mr Louise, 45, joined the police force in 1963. He was promoted to several senior posts, including that of director of the Police Training School in 1975, where he remained until 1977. At that time, the police school was at Amitie Praslin.

Mr Louise who resides at La Misere, was appointed Deputy Commissioner in 1985, with special responsibility for operations.

*** Canadian Development Aid To Continue**

91AF0392A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 17 Nov 90 p 2

[Article: "Canada To Continue Helping Seychelles"]

[Text] Canada's High Commissioner to Seychelles, Mr David Rose, concluded a visit to Victoria Thursday to review cooperation between the two countries, a Ministry of Planning and External Relations press release announced yesterday.

The High Commissioner, who arrived on November 4, reviewed past projects financed by his country, finalised the new cooperation programme for 1991 and discussed other bilateral issues.

The press release said that despite budget cuts Canada would maintain its development assistance programme in the coming years. Canada is now spending one billion dollars (Canadian) more on aid compared to six years ago, and is the largest contributor to the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation. It is also the second largest contributor to the development programme of "la Francophonie."

During the period 1989/90, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded projects in Seychelles to the value of SR357,580 [rupees]. Ongoing projects receiving Canadian assistance include the strengthening of child health services (SR148,000), the Pointe au Sel creche to be constructed by mid-1991 (SR138,000), and the Anse aux Pins school science

laboratory (SR87,200) which is almost complete. The Swiss government is partly financing the laboratory.

The assistance programme for the 1990/91 fiscal year include small but important community projects. The newest tie and dye workshop (FILOZIL), for the Department of Industry will receive SR112,000 in Canadian assistance. It will be of benefit to some 10 women. The Rehabilitation Centre toy production workshop at North East Point will get SR35,000 in aid. Eight to ten youths will work there. The Majoie village road and other smaller projects will be allocated another SR189,000.

Seychelles also benefits from a regular Canadian scholarship programme, the press release said. At present there are seven students on long term study under the programme.

In the marine sector Canada provides funds through the International Centre for Ocean Development for projects, technical assistance and training in fish quality control, mariculture and environment.

In the "La Francophonie" sector there are also possibilities to be explored with New Brunswick and Quebec, the press release noted.

Another important project the press release said was worth mentioning, is the Trois Rivières University Linkage programme for the two-year training of school headteachers. The first group of students graduated from there in 1989.

* Cooperation in Petroleum Exploration Begins

* First Regional Seminar

91AF0493A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 17 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Better coordination among countries of the Indian Ocean in their search for oil, buoyed high last Friday at the closing of the first regional seminar on petroleum exploration at the Plantation Club, Baie Lazare.

Regional cooperation in petroleum exploration came a step closer to reality when the 15 participating countries formed a cooperation committee, and chose Seychelles to chair it.

The seminar has also been hailed as an "outstanding" success by delegates from 27 countries, 27 oil companies and 10 international organisations.

"We are happy that Seychelles has been chosen to start the ball rolling (in regional cooperation)," noted Seychelles National Oil Company (SNOC) chairman Guy Morel at the close of the five-day seminar.

SNOC and the United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (UNDTCD) organised the seminar, which is one of the biggest the country has hosted. Other sponsors were the Commonwealth Fund

for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), NORAD [Norwegian Agency for International Development], Enterprise Oil, Texaco Ultramar and Mobil.

Mr Morel said the countries of the region had to pool their resources and see how they could share it.

He also stressed the importance of cooperation from the oil companies in this regional venture.

SNOC managing director Surya Khanna said real cooperation had already begun, and the region looked forward to support from international organisations and oil companies.

He said Seychelles' chairmanship of the regional cooperation committee was a "very big" achievement and honour for the country.

Other delegates were equally optimistic and looked forward to the regional cooperation which they said would benefit not only the countries, but also oil companies.

UNDTCD natural resources and energy senior officer Marc Schieber told SEYCHELLES NATION the delegates had been able to exchange useful information and establish contacts at the seminar, while a number of "very concrete" projects would be pursued through cooperation.

He believed a regional cooperation mechanism would take about a year to be set up as there would have to be further consultations between SNOC and the other national oil companies.

Mobil New Exploration Ventures exploration manager for Africa Scott Mulcahy said Mobil was "interested" in the region, and believed it would just be a matter of time before "the" large discovery, which all oil companies were hoping for, was made.

Petro Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC) vice-president Yves Gagnon said he believed regional cooperation would be well-received by all members of the region.

Texaco consulting explorationist David Pasta said oil exploration and development in the whole Indian Ocean area would increase as a result of the seminar.

Ultramar new ventures supervisor Steve Jenkins said: "Regional cooperation makes it easier to get data from one place, and know the prospectivity of all the countries, rather than go to each individual country."

Enterprise Oil exploration director Myles Bowen said the regional studies done as a result of cooperation would be very beneficial to everybody, including the oil companies.

CFTC senior legal advisor Carl Dundas said the seeds of regional cooperation had been sown in a meaningful way.

On Saturday, the delegates were taken on a geological excursion on Mahe's west coast.

*** Committee Chair Appointed**

91AF0493A Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 17 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Seychelles has been chosen to chair a regional cooperation committee for oil exploration, it was announced Friday evening.

The 15 countries of the Indian Ocean region made this decision during the course of the five-day regional seminar on oil exploration at the Plantation Club.

The committee, comprising the participating countries, would consider the requirements of individual countries with a view to define concrete projects and areas of cooperation, the panel discussion on Friday revealed.

The countries also considered a mutual information routine which would serve to keep fellow countries informed of surveys and other relevant operations.

A second meeting was proposed, possibly in two years' time. Mombasa, the Kenyan port city, was mentioned as a possible venue.

The meeting identified areas of possible cooperation, which included mutual training and manpower exchange, sharing of technical facilities, exchange of technical data, and exchange of model agreements and administrative systems.

The various funding and cooperation agencies were also requested to consider financial and technical support for the regional cooperation venture.

To international oil companies, the countries expressed a wish for increased exploration activities, while the companies and scientific institutions agreed that there was a need for further search.

It was noted during the conclusion that cooperation between host countries and the private industry should be based on open dialogue to create mutual trust and understanding.

Openness with data and information was also important in achieving this, the seminar added.

The seminar also emphasised environmental considerations in all phases of petroleum activity, and took note of Seychelles' efforts to preserve and protect its marine environment.

*** Norwegian Accord Funds Further Oil Exploration**

91AF0492B Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 18 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Seychelles and Norway Friday signed a new agreement to continue supporting petroleum exploration in the islands' waters.

The R3.4 [rupee] million agreement was signed at National House by Dr Selwyn Gendron, the Department of Industry's principal secretary and Mr Oistein Glommi, the senior adviser for energy and maritime division at the Norwegian Agency for Development Corporation (NORAD). Present at the ceremony were representatives of the Seychelles National Oil Company (SNOC) and (NORPEC) [expansion not given].

Dr Gendron said the new agreement would provide SNOC with technical assistance for the period between now and the end of 1993. He said it would enable Seychelles to benefit from the rich experience Norway had acquired in the field of petroleum and was built on the successful result of past agreements between the two countries.

According to Dr Gendron the new agreement placed emphasis on the development of a corporate plan for SNOC and the training of Seychellois personnel. It will also provide an analysis of the least known areas of the continental shelf. Under the agreement SNOC will receive assistance for the interpretation of drilling data that will become available from areas under licence to Oil Enterprise PLC.

"The result of the data may also lead to a review of our petroleum exploration strategy," Dr Gendron said.

He told the NORAD and NORPEC representatives that he thought the future of petroleum exploration in Seychelles was bright, especially when it was backed by professional technical assistance from Norway.

The agreement was signed on the last day of the Indian Ocean regional seminar on petroleum. Mr Glommi congratulated Seychelles for organising the seminar and stated that the agreement signed at National House was to support ongoing search for oil in the area.

Previous agreements between Seychelles and Norway covered a comprehensive study of all data available on petroleum exploration in Seychelles. This resulted in the formulation of a petroleum policy for the country. The study was proved useful to a petroleum exploration in 1986. It strengthened Seychelles' position in negotiations with oil companies, noted Dr Gendron.

Another agreement in 1988 provided for more information to fill gaps in petroleum knowledge, again reinforcing Seychelles' promotion campaign.

Representatives from the two Norwegian agencies were in Seychelles attending the first Indian Ocean regional seminar on petroleum.

*** 'Inalienable' Ties With Cuba Reaffirmed**

91AF0568D Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 8 Jan 91 pp 1, 2

[Text] Seychelles and Cuba have reiterated the "inalienable" ties of friendship that exist between the two peoples and expressed confidence that these will develop even further.

This was manifested during a short political and cultural activity on Saturday at the Cuban Ambassador's Bel Eau residence to mark the 32nd anniversary of the Cuban Revolution.

Organised by members of the Seychelles-Cuba Friendship Association (SECUFA), the activity included speeches, Seychellois dances and a performance on the violin by a Cuban.

Also present at the gathering were members of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF) Central Committee and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

In his speech for the occasion, Cuban Ambassador Andres Silva reiterated the "excellent" relations and the cooperation that exist between Seychelles and Cuba, which, he said, they were sure would develop even much more.

Earlier on, SECUFA's acting chairman Finley Racombo had noted that the "inalienable" ties of friendship between the two countries would remain strong and unwavering in the struggle for peace and progress of the two peoples.

Mr Silva remarked that as they were celebrating the Revolution's anniversary, Cuba was facing great economic difficulties due to the "political crisis" in eastern European countries, with which it had established tight relations in various fields.

For his part, Mr Racombo noted that they, members of SECUFA, were conscious of the "extremely difficult situation" the people of Cuba were going through as a result of the "disintegration" of the socialist camp, in particular those countries which are members of the Warsaw Pact, on which Cuba depended in great measure economically.

"Nevertheless, we would like to reiterate to you, in the name of our people, our confidence that Cuba will be able to weather this new challenge, as it had demonstrated on numerous occasions," Mr Racombo said.

SECUFA was set up about four years ago and the majority of its members are students who have studied in Cuba.

* Water Restrictions Threatened, Dams Drying Up

91AF0568F Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 5 Jan 91 pp 1, 2

[Text] December 1990 produced one of the most unusual weather patterns for this period of the year, recording only 43 percent of the average rainfall for that month, the meteorological office has said.

Meanwhile, the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC) has warned that water restrictions might have to be extended.

During the first 20 days of December the Airport recorded a total of 52.3 millimetres (mm) of rain. Another 74.2 mm fell during the last 11 days, making a monthly total of 126.5 mm, meteorologist Robert Lajoie told SEYCHELLES NATION.

"This figure represents only 43 percent of the average rainfall for December (based on the last 18 years of record), and only the second time during the same period that December had failed to record more than 200 mm of rain," Mr Lajoie said.

The other case was in 1987 when only 57.9 mm were recorded, Mr Lajoie said, noting however that the months preceding December that year were not "that dry."

Noting that the period from June to October last year had been "extremely dry," Mr Lajoie said that the failure of rains in December aggravated water situations in the country.

The southeasterly winds which are normally non-existent during December dominated the low-level wind flow during the first 20 days of the month, bringing abnormally stable and dry conditions over most of the area, Mr Lajoie noted.

"The main reason behind these abnormally dry conditions during December was an unusually high pressure area over the Arabian peninsula," he explained.

Noting that water restrictions have already been imposed in certain parts of the country, the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC) has said that these would have to be extended to other areas as well if rain does not fall in within a week.

The PUC has called on the public not to waste water or use it unnecessarily such as to wash cars, and the like.

A person's water supply risks being disconnected if it is found that he or she has been wasting water unnecessarily, the PUC has warned.

* Tourism Up With New Air Europe Flights

91AF0568C Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in English 10 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] Air Europe landed at Seychelles International Airport Tuesday from Milan, launching weekly air services between this hub of industrial Northern Italy to these islands.

One hundred and twenty passengers nearly all Italians disembarked from the Boeing 757, eager for a tropical island holiday and escape this year's harsh winter.

A spokesman for Air Seychelles, the agents [as printed] said the flights will arrive in Mahe from Milan via Djibouti every Tuesday.

Air Seychelles executive chairman Conrad Benoiton said recently that Seychelles Civil Aviation officials were

having discussions with operators in Europe who were prepared to consider flying to Seychelles to cope with the expected influx of visitors over the next five years.

Total tourist arrivals largely exceeded the target set, soaring to 103,771, almost 20 percent more than 1989.

ZAMBIA

* Kaunda on Political Education of Military

91AF0592B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
12 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "Be Dedicated to Government, Soldiers Urged"]

[Excerpt] President Kaunda, warning against the dangers of divisions, yesterday implored the defence forces to remain loyal to "the government of the day" under pluralism.

"Therefore, as UNIP [United National Independence Party] is in power, your loyalty to the UNIP Government should remain unquestionable," he told the sixth senior prison officers political education seminar at Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka.

In his speech punctuated by applause the President emphasised: "Whilst the country was engaged in charting a new course to introduce political pluralism, your role remains, namely, to maintain peace, stability, law and order in the nation."

Zambia would be headed for a civil war if the defence forces allowed themselves to be split, he said.

"All of you comrades have got guns. What the multi-partyists are doing is to separate you. But by far the greatest majority of the forces are UNIP forces."

He continued: "Do they think the majority who support UNIP will say 'come and take us over'?"

"It requires only one shot from the barracks and the whole thing will explode, if that should happen, God help us...." Fortunately, he said, the members of the armed forces who were opposition sympathisers were few.

Noting that he had repeated the same message over the past few days, he said: "If I repeat these subjects publicly, it is because of the dangers we face..."

He ordered the service chiefs to ensure their officers were informed that the truth "is what I am telling you."

Political education of the armed forces was justified because of the role and position they occupied in society.

"They can do this most effectively by being in the forefront in defending and protecting the people's aspirations and interests," he said.

Cde. Kaunda praised the prisons services for their outstanding performance in supporting the food production programme and assured them that their reorganisation move had the full backing of the Party.

"I am very happy indeed to note that you are making every effort to acquire funds through the budgetary process and donor sources for the establishment of ten-tonne-milling plant," Cde. Kaunda said.

Government would beef up the prison workforce to reduce the inmate-officer ratio which stood at an average of 15 to one.

He instructed the Home Affairs Ministry to scout for funds to supplement the prison fleet of vehicles and enhance security and mobility.

Commissioner of prisons Mr. Elijah Chimfumpa said the prison service would defend UNIP and expose "any bad elements" in their midst.

He talked of conditions in prisons improving with the injection of K60 [kwacha] million.

"Every inmate will soon be sleeping on a mattress. Every inmate has at least two blankets, each inmate is putting on a pair of long trousers but all shall have two pairs. Each inmate will have a cup and two plates to himself...." the commissioner said. [Passage omitted]

* Pluralists Warned About 'Dirty' Tactics

91AF0591A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
5 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "Don't Use Dirty Ways, Multi-Partists Warned"]

[Text] President Kaunda has warned multi-party advocates against using dirty tactics in the run-up to pluralism and said he would send them back to prison if they persisted.

Cde. Kaunda issued the warning in Chibombo yesterday when he addressed chiefs from Central Province in the district council chambers.

"I challenge the multi-partists to behave otherwise I shall send them back there and the law will take its course," he said.

He said he had to spend 12 hours convincing Central Committee Members to pardon all the coup plotters before they finally agreed with the amnesty.

It was unfortunate multi-partists had been parading former army commander Christon Tembo and former Lieutenant Mwamba Luchembe to woo support in the defence and security forces.

"That is not the type of democracy we want. I will not allow them to disrupt peace in the country."

He warned multi-partists to stop interfering with the defence and security forces.

He told the gathering which comprised four senior chiefs, one chieftainess and 24 chiefs among others that he was on a country-wide campaign to "put across a few ideas which might help us understand the way we are going into the third Republic."

Chiefs have an important role to play in the third Republic just like during the freedom struggle.

He assured the chiefs that there was no way UNIP could rig elections because the party believed in free and fair elections.

When he made the statement about multi-partists in Zambia wanting to meet Angolan (UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]) rebel leader Jonas Savimbi he did not mean the two parties had actually met.

"I am not accusing Savimbi of doing that, I am saying pluralists are planning to approach him" he explained.

With Central Province Central Committee Member Cde. Fenwick Chifunda, Cde. Kaunda warned that no good could come out of a government installed through the use of force of arms.

*** Kaunda Calls Opponents 'Cheats, Hyenas'**

91AF0591C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
28 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "UNIP [United National Independence Party] Rivals Get Blast"]

[Text] President Kaunda has denounced UNIP opponents claiming they will salvage Zambia out of the current economic quagmire as "cheats and political hyenas."

While Zambia was admittedly entangled in a web of economic difficulties it was wrong for anyone to think he had the panacea to the economic ills, he told a rally in Kasama yesterday.

"All those saying that we are cheats, they are political hyenas. Yes, we have problems but anyone saying that he has a solution is a liar."

UNIP had embarked on a programme to improve the people's standard of living by improving social services in a major rehabilitation programme supported by donors and local funds.

He implored UNIP leaders, the clergy, teachers and school heads to organise people to be involved in the exercise and to prepare them on how money set aside for the venture could best be disbursed for the projects.

He called for more sacrifice in the restructuring period and assured that present hardships were a temporary phase.

"Accept suffering now for a while but dawn will come, light will definitely come, don't cry but work hard," he said.

Comrade Kaunda who warned that those intending to disrupt peace and stability would be "hit" hard, said the UNIP programmes were designed to further ease the suffering of the people.

He reminded the gathering which included Northern Province Central Committee Member Paramount Chief Chitimukulu that UNIP, as the people's party, had taken care of the "poorest of the poor" through subsidised mealie meal and other measures.

Grinding mills would be installed in most areas and the price of mealie would have to come down as people would take the maize to be ground instead of buying.

The UNIP programme was fully supported by the IMF, the World Bank and other donor agencies.

Using all available resources, schools, hospitals and other vital infrastructure would be rehabilitated.

Opponents of UNIP should know that because of UNIP policies a lot of improvement had already taken place, although health and education services would have to be improved.

On multi-partyism, he said UNIP had accepted to go multi-party but he wanted peace and progress to prevail like has been the case over the last 26 years.

Government would not tolerate anyone bent on disrupting peace and stability, adding, "we have accepted pluralism, UNIP is a people's Party, a Party of the present, a Party of the future and a Party which brought independence," he said amid deafening applause.

*** Iraq Urged To Heed UN Resolution, Withdraw**

91AF0501A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
28 Nov 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Opinion"]

[Text] What the entire world community expected since Iraq invaded the sheikdom of Kuwait has now become a reality with the five permanent Security Council members delivering a deadline for the withdrawal of Saddam Husayn's troops.

The consensus reached on Monday by the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China has effectively ended speculation that the broad global coalition against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait would somehow split to pieces before it resolved the prevailing Gulf crisis.

The envisaged or predicted split has not occurred. Instead the United Nations, through the Security Council, has gone further to exhibit a most impressive show of purpose as well as resolve.

Many should perhaps be expressing sincere shock at the fact that in demanding the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, the Security Council did not simply end at issuing a verbal ultimatum.

The council went further to agree on a draft resolution that allows the use of "all necessary means" (including military force) to make the Iraqis leave their neighbour and restore its government.

But while we, like the majority of people in the world today, are entirely opposed to the use of military means as a way of solving conflicts. We appreciate the reasonable impatience of the five members of the Security Council and earnestly appeal to the Iraqi government to immediately leave Kuwait.

It has regularly been said that a military shoot-out in the Gulf must be avoided at all costs because if this happened, it may well be the last that the human race could be shooting at each other. The prevailing scenario in the Gulf today can lead to the third—and last—world war.

Given this grim postulation, it is then left to the government of Iraq to respond to the ultimatum delivered by the Security Council which has actually given peace a chance. By so doing, the Iraqi people will hardly be humiliating themselves.

No one will similarly say the Iraq nation has been defeated. On the contrary, when historians come to record or [word illegible] the events, they are bound to give credit to the reason and courage that prevailed on both sides.

The world has come such a long way from the heady, dangerous days of the cold war and deserves eternal respite now that this atmosphere has been driven by the reason and courage of both the West and East.

There is utterly no reason why any nation should choose to reverse the inevitable trend of history by taking the world back to the edgy abyss of a global war.

*** Reliable Supply Promised**

91AF0621B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
5 Dec 90 p 7

[Text] Minister of Finance Comrade Gibson Chigaga has assured the nation that there would be a steady flow of crude oil following negotiations with "stable" suppliers.

He gave this assurance in a ministerial statement in reply to a point of order raised a few weeks ago by Ndola MP [Member of Parliament] Mr Victor Konie who wanted to know why Zimco [Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation] did not reduce prices of fuel when they were lowered on the international market.

Cde Chigaga explained that the Government was currently making efforts to persuade suppliers to give Zambia concessional and favourable prices similar to

those which were offered by Kuwait before the 2 August invasion of that country by Iraq.

"We've contacted a number of countries on steady supplies of crude oil. Already we've a steady supply of oil and are negotiating for concessional prices like was the case [as published] with Kuwait," Cde Chigaga said.

He said prices of fuel in the country could not be reduced when the crude oil price slumped from \$40 per barrel to \$32 per barrel on the world market because the fuel which was used was processed from the crude oil which was bought at \$40 per barrel.

Cde Chigaga stated that Zimco would have considered price reductions if the commodity was from the \$32 per barrel crude oil. He cautioned that people should not anticipate price reductions.

The minister disclosed that he has directed Zimco to streamline handling of crude oil imports. He was responding to a point of order raised by Lukulu MP, Mr Alexis Luhila who requested the ministry to reduce the number of "middlemen" handling crude oil.

Mr Luhila noted that the high number of companies handling the commodity had contributed to the escalating fuel prices being slapped on motorists.

Making another point of order on Cde Chigaga's statement, Mr John Kalenga (Mwinilunga West) wondered why Zimco failed to sell the South African refined fuel at lower prices since "it was bought cheaply."

Cde Chigaga said the South African fuel was imported in the country as an emergency measure adding that it was not Government policy to encourage purchase of refined fuel.

He said refined fuel from South Africa could not be said to be cheap because of road transportation charges which were reflected in the retail price.

*** Crude Oil Bill Amounts to \$150 Million**

91AF0621A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
22 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] The Government owes Zambia National Commercial Bank, Grindlays International Bank and Bankers Trust \$104.8 million (K4.4 billion) for financing importation of crude oil, Finance and Planning Minister Comrade Gibson Chigaga told Parliament yesterday.

Answering questions from Ndola MP [Member of Parliament] Mr Victor Konie Cde Chigaga said suppliers of crude oil were paid on time.

"Zimoil owes a sum of \$104.8 million in respect of fuel purchase. This figure includes both principal and interest," he said adding that crude oil purchases were charged at the official exchange rate.

He said Zimoil did not pay duty on the importation of crude oil. "However, excise duty is payable on refined

products at the time of sale according to the following rates: premium petrol (30 percent), regular petrol (30 percent), domestic kerosene (15 percent) and diesel (28 percent).

Between 1 November and 1 December this year the country had imported 727,022 barrels of crude oil, gas oil and unleaded gasoline at a total cost of \$26,606,207.75.

And Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance Cde John Miyato said Government collected K30.4 [kwacha] million duty on secondhand clothes brought in Zambia by people between 1989 and 31 March 1990.

* Japan Gives Vaccines, Trucks for Child Health

91AF0501C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
23 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] Japan yesterday donated drugs to the Ministry of Health and 80 Honda motorcycles and spares worth about \$540,000 as part of the Universal Child Immunisation (UCI) campaign.

UNICEF has also donated to the ministry a Suzuki motor vehicle to spearhead maternal and child health activities in the country.

Presenting the vaccines and 80 motorcycles, 160 helmets and spare parts for the Hondas, Japanese ambassador to Zambia, Mr Yoshiki Sugiura, informed Minister of Health, Dr Jeremiah Chijikwa, and his acting permanent secretary Mrs Hellen Matanda, that children died by the thousands everyday of easily preventable diseases such as measles and whooping cough.

According to statistics available in Zambia, he said 3.8 percent of infant mortality was caused by measles and another 11.7 percent to respiratory infections while malnutrition ranked the highest at 16.6 percent.

"The measles virus vaccine donated today is sufficient to immunise 680,000 infants, which is one-third of the number of children in Zambia under the age of five years.

"Big BCG vaccine can also immunise over 100,000 infants. In fact these are very strong weapons with which to save the children of Zambia from this enemy of mankind," Mr Sugiura said.

And acting officer in-charge of UNICEF, Mrs Laila Ismail-Khan, commended the cooperation which existed between the ministry, JICA [Japanese International Cooperation Agency], the Japanese government and UNICEF in their efforts to improve child health in Zambia.

Dr Chijikwa thanked the Japanese government for the continued support being given to Zambia.

* Unions Sue State on Housing Allowance Tax

91AF0500C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
28 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] The four public service unions are suing the Government for the breach of collective agreement on the taxation of housing allowances.

Angered by the Government's decision, the unions engaged a law firm to file an injunction with the High Court to restrain the State from taxing allowances.

A statement from the Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ) said the taxation of the allowances was not only unfair but a clear testimony of the Government action in bad faith.

"You cannot confiscate money in this manner," says the statement signed by CSUZ deputy general secretary Mr Godden Mandandi, National Union of Public Workers (NUPSW) deputy national chairman Mr Philimon Phiri, deputy general secretary for the Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU), Mr Alfred Mudenda and Mr Albert Chibale, the general secretary for the Zambia National Union of Teachers (ZNUT).

The statement said the collective agreement was still in force as it was valid from July 1990 to June 1992.

Meanwhile, Kitwe district council has no money to pay hefty housing allowances to the affected workers this month and the local ZULAWU branch has accused the institution of retrogressive management.

Branch chairman Mr Listed Chirwa said yesterday the issue was "national, very sensitive and should be handled with care."

* State Rejects Charge of Fragmenting Union

91AF0500B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
20 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] Government has dismissed claims that it has connived with some employers and individuals to fragment the Zambia Union of Financial Institutions and Allied Workers (ZUFIWA).

Reacting to charges that the State was trying to have bankers split from ZUFIWA, Minister of Labour Social Development and Culture Cde Lavu Mulimba said in an interview in Lusaka yesterday:

"There is no truth in the allegation that the Government has colluded with employers to encourage bankers to form their own union. The Government takes its decisions without conniving with any body."

ZUFIWA chairman Mr Peter Mulenga charged at the weekend that the State, some employers and individuals had ganged up to cause a split by having members from a splinter union.

But the minister said if Mr Mulenga had evidence on the issue, "he should bring it home."

Membership to the union was voluntary and individual workers decided whether or not to form a union to foster their welfare. That had been provided for in the Republican constitution and all International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions.

The Party and Government were on record as champions of the United Nations human rights charter that provided for workers to the right of association.

* Traditional Chiefs Support Kaunda in Election

91AF0500A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
28 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] Luapula Province traditional rulers have pledged total support for President Kaunda and UNIP [United National Independence Party] in the forthcoming multi-party elections.

Seven chiefs, led by Senior Chief Mushota, told the President at State House yesterday they would mobilise their subjects to maintain the existing peace in the nation.

The chiefs pledged to prod their subjects to increase food production and to support the economic recovery programme.

They noted that UNIP's reign had been one of stability..

Senior Chief Mushota of Kawambwa talked of "serious political and economical issues ahead" which needed to be addressed.

He was accompanied to State House by Senior Chief Puta of Nchelenge, Senior Chief Mununga also of Nchelenge, Senior Chief Mwewa of Samfya, Chief Matanda of Mansa, Chief Kanyembo of Nchelenge and Chieftainess Mulakwa of Samfya.

Cde Kaunda said the Party and its Government held the traditional rulers in high esteem as they were the custodians of the nation's culture.

"It is not our intention to follow the example of other countries which abolished chieftainships," the President assured the group.

He apologised to the chiefs for their delayed conditions of service but promised the Government was "moving very quickly" over the issue.

As Zambia moved into the era of multi-partyism, it needed the influence of the chiefs to avert the horrors of 18 years ago when opposition parties engaged in violence.

Meanwhile, Cde Kaunda reiterated his call for the church in Zambia to continue its unification role now that Zambia has decided to adopt multi-party politics, reports Zana.

In a statement released by State House on the consultative talks with church leaders, Cde Kaunda stressed the role of the church in nation building.

* Multiparty Advocates Reportedly Recant

91AF0592C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
10 Dec 90 p 7

[Article: "Defectors Confess Mistakes"]

[Text] Some multi-party advocates in Mwinilunga district are alleged to have confessed to area district governor Comrade Ntana Chindefu that they had been misled and regretted their actions.

Cde. Chindefu said in an interview in Ndola that the pluralists made their confessions at various public meetings he addressed during a tour of his district.

"The chiefs and the people in the area are behind the leadership of President Kaunda and UNIP [United National Independence Party]. They do not want any kind of divisions because divisions led to the death of my beloved senior Chief Kanongesha Ndembi to die in exile when he sided with the opposition African National Congress," Cde. Chindefu said.

The governor said after listening to his advice on the importance of unity in the nation the affected pluralists begged him not to release their names "for security reasons."

He said the advocates of plural politics had been cheated that they would be given T-shirts and money but he questioned where those things would take them.

He told them that some of the leaders in the multi-party movement lived in mansions in towns and cities and did not have villages where they came from.

He warned people in villages to be wary of their treachery because when chaos set in it would take Zambia a long time to regain stability and a whole generation might live in turbulence during such tribulations.

Cde. Chindefu said nobody should cheat people that they can solve their problems easily because if that were possible countries like Britain and the United States would have been heaven on earth.

"We as Zambians are one large family and we should be seen to be like that so that other countries, where there are problems, can come and learn one or two lessons from us. But I admit that we have had our own problems except that we at one time became wise enough to declare the one party-system.

"I was at one time the personal secretary to the late Comrade Harry Mwaanga Nkumbula. But later on the old man realised that unity was important and he fused the ANC [African National Congress] into UNIP so that

we could be where we are now. Peace is important if we are to develop," Cde. Chindefu said.

He warned that people should be careful under the new system which the UNIP leadership had decided to allow because during the plural post-independence period, father was against son, son against father, boss against subordinate, chief against his subject. There was total division, he said.

In multi-party democracy it was common for some people to carry two or more cards so that they could escape trouble from cadres of the opposition parties.

He hoped Zambians were now mature enough to learn to resolve their differences amicably.

Cde. Chindefu said some of the leaders in the multi-party movement were just frustrated.

* National Democratic Alliance Party Formed

91AF0590B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
22 Dec 90 p 7

[Article by *TIMES* Reporter/Zana/ZIS: "Another Party Formed"]

[Text] Another party, comprising supporters of the African National Congress (ANC), United Progressive Party (UPP) and the United Party (UP) has been formed.

The new party called the National Democratic Alliance (NADA) will be formally launched in Lusaka today.

Convenor Mr. Elias Kaenga said in a Press release in Lusaka yesterday another Press briefing will be held today at the Hotel Inter-Continental to expound on the new party.

NADA will be the second opposition party formed after the movement for multi-party democracy (MMD) which was announced on Thursday with an estimated membership of a million followers.

* Opposition Denies UNITA Connection

91AF0590A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
6 Dec 90 p 7

[Article: "Multi-Partists Deny Savimbi Connection"]

[Text] The movement for multi-party democracy has no intentions of meeting UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels nor has it any plans to train fighters to overthrow the Zambian Government, chairman of the movement Mr. Arthur Wina said in Lusaka yesterday.

He told a Press briefing at the movement's secretariat that the movement was only determined to change the current Government through peaceful and constitutional means.

"I as head of the movement would have known if there were plans underway to meet Savimbi or if any meetings had taken place," Mr. Wina said when he commented on reports that the movement was trying to contact UNITA rebel leader, Dr. Jonas Savimbi to train Zambia's military officers to overthrow the Government should UNIP [United Independence Party] bounce back to power after the elections next year.

The movement was seeking legal advice on the series of libelous and malicious offences committed by the UNIP leadership against the movement and it is only proper that the case be handled by the court to clear the name of the multi-party advocates.

Mr. Wina was concerned at the media coverage on the matter saying journalists had a responsibility to verify allegations before publishing them.

The State must also bring to book multi-party supporters or leaders who were reported to be bribing defence and security personnel through relevant Government wings such as the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) instead of lashing out attacks.

Mr. Wina said the movement welcomed the repeal of article four to pave way for the formation of other political parties but the retention of article 4B would create problems for the opposition parties.

He noted that UNIP would still enjoy heavy funding from the State coffers at the expense of other political parties.

"This is a discriminatory piece of legislature," Mr. Wina said.

The movement was making frantic efforts to bring in their printing Press for their weekly paper.

* UNIP Denies Effort To Splinter Opposition

91AF0591B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
3 Jan 91 p 1

[Article: "Party Chief Parries MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Charges"]

[Text] UNIP [United National Independence Party] Secretary General Comrade Grey Zulu has scoffed at allegations by the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) that UNIP was sponsoring several new small parties to split MMD votes saying it would be folly to do so because the ruling Party could lose members.

Speaking on New Year's day when he renewed his UNIP membership at Bayuni primary school in Lusaka, he said the allegations should be treated with the contempt they deserved.

UNIP was an experienced Party with a clean record and it was regrettable that the MMD was trying to malign the present leadership by telling lies.

He said the new year, ushering in multi-party politics, will be characterised by the springing up of many parties that would contest presidential and parliamentary seats.

Present were Rural Development Committee chairman Comrade Reuben Kamanga, Lusaka Province political secretary Comrade Greenson Ikowa and ward chairman Comrade Philip Kalinda.

Meanwhile, UNIP cadres in Kitwe have been challenged to change their organisational patterns to thwart the alleged tactical manoeuvres by the MMD which is reportedly shifting its headquarters to the town.

Area senior district governor Comrade Leonard Mpundu said he had information that even MMD vice-chairman Mr. Frederick Chiluba was planning to move to Kitwe from Ndola to effectively launch the new party's programme on the Copperbelt.

Speaking after he led a group of senior Party and Government officials who renewed their UNIP 1991 membership at the civic centre on Tuesday, Cde. Mpundu said the opposition was tough "but we must stand firm and support our Party UNIP. We should not allow the opposition, especially the MMD to come to Kitwe and interfere with our programmes."

MMD is cheating people that it has an alternative development programme to wash away Zambia's socio-economic problems, Prime Minister General Malimba Masheke told a crowd when he renewed his UNIP membership at Tubalange primary school in Lusaka West, Zana reports.

In an apparent reference to MMD chairman, Mr. Arthur Wina, Comrade Masheke said the leader of the new party, on arrival from abroad, said he would publicise his party's development programme, but has not.

Cde. Masheke cautioned that Zambians should not back a party that had to have its development plan approved abroad.

And former High Court commissioner Mr. Edward Shamwana and three Lusaka businessmen have joined MMD.

Former Zimbo executive director for transport and energy Mr. Patrick Chisanga, former Bank of Zambia governor Mr. Valentine Musakanya and former Zambia Army brigadier-general Mr. Godfrey Miyanda declared their support for MMD at a Press briefing at the MMD secretariat in Kalundu.

Mr. Shamwana and Mr. Miyanda were recently reported to be members of the National Democratic Alliance but they denied any links with that party.

Mr. Chisanga, a former UNIP administrative secretary at Freedom House said he was happy to support the MMD as it was set to work to improve the lot.

* State Fined for Denying MMD Rally Permit

91AF0590C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
20 Dec 90 pp 1, 7

[Article by Chris Chitanda: "Pay MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy], Judge Tells Guilty State"]

[Excerpts] The State acted illegally when it denied the movement for multi-party democracy (MMD) permits to hold public meetings and therefore must pay damages, a Lusaka High Court ruled yesterday.

Mr. Justice Bobby Bwalya said the State had violated the Public Order Act and articles 22 and 23 of the constitution which gave any person the right to assemble, associate and demonstrate freely provided one's action did not threaten public peace.

Mr. Justice Bwalya made this ruling when he passed judgment in a case in which the MMD had petitioned the State for denying it permits to hold public meetings. [Passage omitted]

Earlier, Mr. Justice Bwalya ruled in his judgment that the State should pay damages to the MMD for illegally denying them a permit for assembly in Lusaka and Ndola and stated the MMD was not an illegal organisation but a pressure group and therefore the denial of a permit of assembly on these grounds was unlawful.

Police refused to issue the MMD with a permit of assembly on November 6 and 7 on security grounds because the movement was allegedly illegal and unconstitutional.

Mr. Justice Bwalya found the State guilty of violating the rights of the petitioners under article 22 and 23 of the constitution but found no grounds for the claim by petitioners that they were discriminated against under article 25.

Under article four of the constitution, before it was amended, nobody was prohibited from participating in politics but everyone was barred from creating other political parties apart from the ruling one—UNIP.

Those who held different opinions from the ruling Party could only be labelled dissidents but "their voice of dissent could not be muzzled or throttled under article four." [Passage omitted]

* ZCCM Shows Billion Kwacha Quarterly Profit

91AF0619B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
6 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] ZCCM [Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines] has made K1,248 [kwacha] million net profit for the quarter ending 30 September 1990, compared to K349 million in the same period last year.

In a statement issued in Lusaka yesterday, a company spokesman said initially the industry recorded K6,583

million but after exchange loss, interest, taxation and other expenses net profit came to K1,248 million.

The profit was a result of the higher revenue sales dictated by the depreciation of the Kwacha against major foreign currencies.

"The total revenue for the quarter under review was K16,369 million, an increase of 117 percent over the K7,527 million realised in the same quarter last year," the spokesman said.

He added: "Copper production for the quarter ending September 1990, at 111,942 tonnes was 1,366 tonnes lower than the 113,308 tonnes achieved in the corresponding quarter of 1989."

The average sales realisation of copper at K103,377 a tonne for the quarter, was 122 percent higher than that of K46,490 a tonne in the corresponding quarter of 1989.

Cobalt production at 1,207 tonnes for the quarter was 87 tonnes lower than the production in September last year, while cobalt sales at 1,213 tonnes, were 5 percent higher than the 1,159 tonnes sold in the corresponding quarter last year.

The company has since declared dividends for the quarter ended September.

* Police Investigation of New Parties Required

91AF0591D Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
19 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "New Parties To Be Screened"]

[Text] Applicants for the formation of political parties will go through a screening process, including exhaustive police scrutiny before they are registered.

The registrar of societies Mr. George Chaila, said in Lusaka the intended parties would not come into existence immediately.

"It will take some time before these parties are issued with certificates of registration," he said.

A party is expected to be a group of ten people or more, Mr. Chaila said.

The regulations require applicants to submit three copies of their constitution, then go to the district executive secretary to obtain application forms.

After filling in details, the forms are submitted to the district executive secretary who follows the "normal procedure."

The registrar said the district executive secretary sends such forms to the police.

"The police will investigate the applicants, then send back the application to the district executive secretary with their comments," he said.

After scrutiny, the police comments, the forms are sent to the registrar of societies.

Mr. Chaila said his office would then carry out its own investigations.

Meanwhile, the movement for multi-party democracy will launch its party today, a spokesman for the movement announced yesterday.

The movement's chairman, Mr. Arthur Wina, will hold a Press briefing after the launching.

* Swedish, Norwegian Aid for Power Plant Repair

91AF0593A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
7 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "Power Plant Gets Help"]

[Text] Sweden and Norway have raised K990 [kwacha] million for the restoration of the third phase of the Kafue gorge power plant that will enable Zambia to export electricity again.

But the two countries warned Zambia to take precautionary measures to avert a disaster similar to the one that nearly gutted the entire plant in 1989, plunging most of the country into darkness.

Swedish ambassador Mr. Per Taxell and the consul of Norway Mr. Ron Skudal signed the agreements granting Zambia the money with Minister of Finance and Planning Comrade Gibson Chigaga at the site of the gorge.

The cost of phase three its estimated at \$27.6 million (K1,145 billion) of which Sweden has contributed K693.5 million and Norway K269.5 million.

The remainder, said Cde. Chigaga, would be funded by a loan from the African Development Bank amounting to K401.5 million and Zesco [Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation] K64.24 million.

Phase three, which would restore 300 megawatts, would cover the erection and commissioning of 330 volt power cables and transmission line, cleaning and repairing of the vertical shaft.

It would also involve supplying and installation of a new lift system, ventilation and fire fighting systems, auxiliary power supplies and repair of two generators.

The designing, manufacturing and installation and commissioning of new power station control system would also be part of the restoration programme.

Cde. Chigaga said the third phase would cover preventive measures against accidents in future.

*** Norwegian Aid To Pay World Bank Debt**

91AF0593B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
4 Dec 90 p 1

[Article: "Zambia Gets K568M To Pay Off Debts"]

[Text] Norway, impressed by Zambia's economic adjustment programme and its political reforms, has given the Government K [kwacha] 568 million to help clear outstanding debt with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Finance Minister Comrade Gibson Chigaga said in Lusaka yesterday at a ceremony to end the 1990 Norad [Norwegian Agency for International Development]/Zambia review programme at Ridgeway hotel in Lusaka that the Zambian Government would like to place on record Zambia's appreciation for Norway's increasing assistance.

Norway has also given Zambia K1.2 billion for development projects next year.

The minister thanked the Norwegian government for providing K106 million for balance of payments support, part of which would be used for oil procurements.

Zambia had put on first priority the rehabilitation of roads and expansion of the industrial base to activate the growth of the economy.

Zambia was currently undergoing a major restructuring process and it was gratifying to see Norway help carry out the programme with a "human face," Cde. Chigaga said.

Environmental protection, improvement of water supply and sanitation had been accorded high priority in the restructuring programme.

"We are pleased that these areas will benefit from the assistance Norway will extend to Zambia," he said.

Norad director in charge of regional department for Africa Mr. Kjell Storlkken pledged continued and increased assistance to Zambia.

Zambia and Norway have been partners in development for a long time and he added that changes taking place in Zambia won great admiration of Norway.

*** Finnish, Norwegian Aid for Debt Repayment**

91AF0593C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
22 Dec 90 p 7

[Article: "Finland, Norway Donate K2 [kwacha] Billion"]

[Text] Finland and Norway have given Zambia nearly K2 billion for debt repayment to the World Bank and rehabilitation of projects.

Finland has committed K1.06 billion to help Zambia's debt repayment and K56.4 billion for import support to buy tractors.

Norway will spend K586 million on the Kafue-Monze road and K288.6 million on the water supply projects in the Western Province.

The ambassador of Finland Mr. Liarin Rantakari and acting consul of Norway Mr. Tore Gjoes signed the agreements with Finance Minister Comrade Gibson Chigaga in Lusaka yesterday.

Cde. Chigaga called the gesture a manifestation of "strong bonds of friendship" between the peoples of the two countries and Zambia.

Both countries had increased their aid to Zambia tremendously. Finland has increased aid from K1.2 billion in 1990 to K1.46 billion in 1991.

Norway pledged a record K1.2 billion aid at Zambia, Norway country programme discussions which included helping rural development.

The projects covered were in Northern Province, Luangwa integrated resource projects, women in development and import support.

"The road rehabilitation agreement we have just signed will improve this strategic regional road and improve movement of goods and people," Cde. Chigaga said.

The Finnish development cooperation programme included the transport assistance project, the road maintenance project, support to the Western Province Cooperative Union, rural development in Luapula, educational materials and import support.

Cde. Chigaga said the aid would improve Zambia's ties with multi-lateral institutions "thereby facilitating its access to World Bank soft window credit.

Mr. Rantakari said support to Zambia was the highest to any country in developing world and Mr. Gjoes said Zambia was one of three countries benefiting from Norway. It was second only to Tanzania.

*** Cultural Scholarships Agreement With China**

91AF0501B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
27 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] Minister of Labour, Social Development and Culture Cde Lavu Mulimba has said the development of culture is an important tool in bridging the gap between nations.

Speaking after signing an executive programme for the cultural agreement with China, Cde Mulimba said although Zambia was committed to fostering cultural development, its efforts were hampered by economic difficulties.

But the Government would continue to explore other means which would facilitate cultural exchanges.

Cde Mulimba signed for the Government while Chinese ambassador Cde Zhou Mingji signed for his country.

Under the 1990-91 agreement the two parties would grant scholarships to students from the other country. Chinese scholarships would mainly be for advanced and postgraduate training.

Cde Mulimba added that culture enabled people to know one another easily. This in turn facilitated cooperation.

The Chinese were commended for their invaluable support which was manifested in many projects, including the economic route Tazara.

Cde Mingji emphasised on the importance of art and culture.

"Culture and arts spring from life and endeavour of people and in turn encourage people in their endeavour for progress and well-being of mankind," he said.

The exchange programme in the field of culture and arts among nations play an important role in promoting understanding and friendship.

* Seven PRC Doctors Posted for Two Years

91AF0594B Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
1 Dec 90 p 7

[Article by Zana: "Luanshya Gets 7 Chinese Docs"]

[Text] Luanshya governor Cde. Godwill Mwamba has commended the Chinese for their hard work and discipline.

He said Zambians had a lot to learn from the Chinese.

He said this when he met seven Chinese doctors posted to Thomson Hospital.

The doctors include paediatrician gynaecologist, acupuncturist, physician and anaesthetist.

He said that the arrival of the doctors would go a long way in alleviating the shortage of qualified personnel at Thomson Hospital.

Cde. Mwamba said because of increased population in the area, the hospital was failing to cope with the workload. The hospital has only one Zambian doctor.

He said China was a dynamic country which had developed from its own resources and had produced hard working and disciplined workers.

Team leader Dr. Gond said during their stay they will strive to work hard and serve the people of Zambia faithfully.

He told the governor not to hesitate to call on them anytime there was a need.

Four of them are women.

Cde. Mwamba said that Luanshya district was indebted to China for sending a powerful team of qualified doctors who would greatly assist in reducing people's sufferings in the area.

But he implored the new team to bear with the council for its inability to provide them with all the necessary facilities especially water and pledged that the council was working on normalising the situation as soon as possible.

The doctors who will be in Zambia for two years arrived in the country two weeks ago and began their work early this week."

* Constitution Offers 'Golden Opportunity'

91AF0592A Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
18 Dec 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Opinion"]

[Text] Now that President Kaunda has appended his signature to the Constitution of Zambia (amendment) Bill, the way has been paved for a new political character in the nation that will usher in the third Republic.

It is a golden opportunity, once again, for Zambia to build on the 26 years of peaceful coexistence and improve upon an otherwise enviable record on the continent.

The maturity that the President was confident about which we should have mustered by now should not be frittered away in misapplied energies.

The presidential assent to this important Bill should therefore be considered an important milestone in our history, opening avenues that offer much excitement for the nation's political growth.

It is of special interest to all therefore that maximum restraint is exercised by campaigners so as to mould the leeway created in the political arena.

As he noted yesterday, the President affixed his signature happily because he earnestly believed the amendment was what the Zambian people decried.

But the sordid activities of the first Republic must not be allowed to resurface onto the modern Zambian political platform.

The stage should rightly move to issues and not personality cults. There should be a deliberate effort to build up a campaign to be relished by candidates and electorates alike. At the end of the day, let the best orator win on the basis of tangible issues.

We strongly urge for such a clean fight because it is the only guarantee against long drawn-out clandestine affairs that procrastinate and degenerate a nation's affairs into civil wars.

If the speed of the current exercise will depend on the Government machinery's pace, let other auxiliary matters not slow down the march to pluralism.

Zambia is still one of the few privileged nations on the globe where innovations to the political process can still work. Let us facilitate this phenomenon further by peaceful campaigns.

Ours in the new era is a chance to turn upside down the dictum that politics is a dirty game. It can be a rich, satisfying one. Firebrand but peaceful political gaming is still within reach in Zambia.

Let the centre stage in our country be a glowing example of peaceful transition on the continent.

*** Insurance Company Proposes Layoff of 1,000**

91AF0619A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
3 Jan 90 p 1

[Article by Kondwani Chirambo]

[Text] More than 1,000 employees at the Zambia State Insurance Corporation [ZSIC] will be laid off when a proposed restructuring exercise starts but the union has opposed the move.

TIMES investigations have revealed a voluminous "restructuring report" by ZSIC managing director Mr David Matongo outlines the elimination of more than 1,000 jobs, citing over employment and alarming management expenses as some reasons for the impending shake-up.

A shocked Zambia Union of Financial Institutions and Allied Workers (ZUFIAW) general secretary Mr Geoffrey Alikipo confirmed the union had received a copy of the confidential report and members have called for Mr Matongo's removal from his post.

The resolutions of the just ended ZUFIAW annual conference say: "Even after offering an olive branch to Mr Matongo, the delegates realise that Mr Matongo has not repented as he is now even proposing the 'killing' of jobs and the declaration of workers into redundancy.

"Delegates, therefore, resolved that Mr Matongo must be removed from ZSIC."

ZUFIAW chairman the Reverend Peter Mulenga said the union was studying the document and has asked ZSIC not to implement the plan until it received a union reaction.

"Even the managers' survival will depend on the union's response," said Reverend Mulenga who has just been reinstated as a Reverend by the Evangelical Spiritual Church of Zambia.

The Reverend was defrocked after charges that he was involved in politics.

ZSIC workers who have heard about the looming lay-offs, have dubbed the report THE SATANIC VERSES, said Mr Alikipo.

The two unionists said ZUFIAW would oppose the move.

The TIMES discovered that the pruning exercise, if implemented, would affect all levels of employees including managers.

Empire building, friction and in-fighting, power sharing, over-employment, lack of an elaborate manpower, control system and recruitment of poor quality staff, are cited in the report as some factors that had exposed the corporation to criticism.

"Too many control centres came into being resulting in too many managerial and supervisory appointments well in excess of the corporation's need with the end result that many jobs become diluted and ineffective.

"This resulted in people shooting down each other's ideas at the top executive level instead of reaching a consensus," the report says.

At business level, clients complained that the corporation was inefficient, indifferent and insensitive to market demands.

The report also adds that financial indiscipline became rife.

"Therefore, time has come to restructure the corporation to bring it back to sound insurance management," says the report.

In 1986 Coopers and Lybrand (UK) was appointed to carry out a review of ZSIC but its recommendations were not effected because there was "too much" emphasis on top level and middle management restructuring than the entire structure, and over-stress on financial management and control.

Meanwhile, bank workers have given the Bankers Employers Association up to the end of this month to improve their salaries and conditions of service, union officials said yesterday.

Rev Mulenga said in an interview workers were angered by the association's declaration of a deadlock which has delayed matters.

"Our members expect new salaries at the end of this month," he said.

Rev Mulenga attacked the chairman of the Bankers Association, Mr Friday Ndhlovu, for "initiating" a deadlock in the talks.

"We also believe that if it were not for the partiality of the chairman of the Bankers Association, those negotiations could have been concluded by now. But the chairman has dragged them on."

* Rail Fares Increased

91AF0621C Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
1 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] Zambia Railways has hiked passenger fares and freight rates on local goods, export and import traffic by between 10 and 100 percent with effect from today, a company spokesman announced yesterday.

Fares in the economy class have gone up by 50 percent, standard class 40 percent and sleepers fares have also risen by 40 percent.

This means those who intend to travel by train from Lusaka to Ndola will pay K161 [kwacha] instead of the current K105 in the economy class.

Freight charges for fertiliser and maize have gone up by 100 percent and petroleum moved from Bwana Mkubwa to Shell BP in Lusaka will cost 100 percent more than the current K613.47 per tonne being charged now.

Livestock movement have also gone up by 100 percent.

Export and import traffic quoted in Kwacha have been hiked by 100 percent while those quoted in dollars have been increased by 10 percent.

Exports and imports for Tanzania-Zambia Railways Authority would cost 10 percent more.

A statement from Zambia Railways public relations manager Mr Nicky Lubinga says the new fares and rates had come about "because of the increases in operating costs caused by fuel price increases of 60 percent and 80 percent implemented recently."

* NIEC Posts 3.4 Billion Kwacha Profit

91AF0499D Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
8 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] The National Import and Export Corporation (NIEC) has made a pre-tax profit of K3.4 [kwacha] billion in the financial year ended 31 March 1990 as against K1.6 billion in the previous financial year.

The profit shows the outstanding performance of the group of companies in the past year despite difficult conditions under which they operated.

In his report to the annual general meeting in Lusaka yesterday, chairman of the NIEC group of companies Dr Ephraim Kaunga said that the group made a profit of K267 million after tax as against K43 million last year.

Dr Kaunga said the company was working on measures to upgrade the quality of its services throughout the country.

He also said the group would continue to handle the maize meal coupons throughout the country because the private sector was unwilling to do the job because of transportation costs.

He said the group had also decided to increase their dividends to K15 million for this year because of the striding policies in dividends to the shareholders.

Presenting award for the overall performance to the best NIEC subsidiary Dr Kaunga said the award was designed to encourage management improve on performance to their customers.

He said this year all the NIEC group of companies displayed outstanding improvement in such performance.

The first prize was given to Niecos [expansion not given]. The second went to NIEC Agencies, the wholesaler and the third prize was given to ZCBC [expansion not given].

He urged all the other companies in the group not to despair because they have not won any award this year.

* Lower Sugar Production Linked to Equipment

91AF0619C Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
15 Dec 90 p 5

[Text] The country will experience a decline in sugar production from 132,845 tonnes achieved during the 1989/90 season to 125,000 tonnes in the 1990/91 season, Parliament heard yesterday.

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Comrade Rabson Chongo said that the decline will be caused by "deteriorating condition of machinery and equipment."

Cde Chongo was responding to the directive issued by the Speaker, Mr Fwanyanga Mulikita on 5 December, to explain the position on plans to expand sugar production.

He was however quick to assure the nation that despite the projected slump in sugar production, Zambia Sugar Company would meet the country's annual demand "which is only 115,000 tonnes."

He told the House that: "The declining production has become a matter of concern. To resolve the problem, Zambia Sugar Company has embarked on a five-year rehabilitation and extension programmes which are intended to raise output of sugar from the present level of 125,000 tonnes to 160,000 tonnes." [as published]

The proposed rehabilitation and expansion programmes "are costly" and the company would require an investment of \$54 million (K2.4 [kwacha] billion), Cde Chongo said.

He explained it was currently mobilising resources from local and external sources.

Cde Chongo disclosed that the Government has decided to increase sugar production by establishing another sugar estate although the project "should be viewed from a long term perspective."

Feasibility studies on the project were carried out in 1978 and have been revised "from time to time." This country in assessing the viability of the project will carry out its own feasibility studies next month," he indicated.

*** Maize Unsold as Farmers Reject Crop Price**

91AF0620A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
3 Dec 90 p 7

[Text] Farmers in Kaoma are stuck with at least 50,000 bags of maize which could not be sold after the Western Province Cooperative Union (WCU) closed the marketing season.

Area Member of Parliament Mr Freddy Chabaya said in Lusaka yesterday that a lot of grain was lying unsold some of it uncovered and might be destroyed by rains.

"We have since appealed to the union to see whether they can extend the marketing period because there is still a lot of maize in the area," Comrade Chabaya said.

Farmers were earlier reluctant to sell the maize to the union because of poor prices. They tried to scout for alternative markets but found none.

They were only induced into selling the crop to the union after a series of meetings with them.

The union should consider extending the marketing period as farmers' efforts could not be left to go to waste. Failure to buy the crop would discourage the spirit of the agricultural revolution.

*** Coexistence Benefits Noted at Botha's Visit**

91AF0594A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
19 Dec 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Co-existence"]

[Text] We repeat most sincerely our welcoming South African foreign minister Roelof "Pik" Botha to this country and hope that the message given him by President Kaunda in their consultations on regional issues yesterday was well received.

Although the South African question proper is still not entirely settled, the coming of Mr. Botha at a time when both the political and economic atmosphere of the sub-region points to a promising future.

Conciliatory as well as positive political milestones have been witnessed on the sub-region at a pace unseen before. We all know it was the coming to power last year of president F.W. de Klerk which has essentially brought Southern Africa to this optimistic climate.

Everywhere, political leaders are pointing to the impressive steps Mr. de Klerk has launched as indicators that the region must begin preparing for a collective, common future similar to what the West European countries have designated for themselves, come 1991.

This optimism, which was literally unthinkable before Mr. de Klerk assumed power in September last year, has more than an ample foundation if one remembers the encouraging, confidence-building speech Mr. "Pik" Botha delivered at the national prayer breakfast in Lusaka last month.

At that historic occasion attended by several African heads of state, Mr. Botha let go an encouraging, impressive speech in which he denounced apartheid and stringently called for a common currency as well as greater political and economic cooperation on the African continent.

Many observers initially found the speech startling and appealed for a cautious response to Mr. Botha's oration. This could be yet another South African diplomatic ploy to hoodwink the African continent, they warned patriotically.

While such cautions are appropriate, there is now enough evidence suggesting that the National Party has finally convinced itself that its apartheid policy has more than run its full course. They have recognised the utter futility of their intransigent policies and now want to become part of the normal world community.

Our message to Mr. Botha is that both South Africa and the black African states have more to gain from a common, collective existence that can maximise the sub-region's full economic and political potential. Let his yesterday's meeting with President Kaunda be the initiator of that future existence.

*** Drought, Poor Roads Cause Famine Near Mpika**

91AF0620B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
21 Dec 90 p 2

[Text] A serious famine has hit Chief Nabwalya's area about 200 km east of Mpika boma, forcing villagers to walk to Ntunta wild life camp near Mpika in search of mealie meal.

Confirming this in a telephone interview, Mpika district executive secretary Mr Shadreck Phiri said because of the impassable roads it has been difficult to supply the area with adequate food relief supplies.

Mr Phiri said so far two trips had been made using council trucks to ferry food to the area but this has been a drop in the ocean as the situation "is serious."

"Bad roads in the Luangwa valley do not allow big trucks to reach the area, as a result, businessmen prefer to deliver their mealie meal to Ntunta camp in the midway," he said.

The situation is so serious the council has already appealed to Cabinet Office to provide more relief supplies to the area.

Mr Phiri said the problem worsened at the beginning of this month when roads became impassable because of the rains and unless more aid was granted the situation was likely to deteriorate.

And Chief Nabwalya has attributed the famine to the poor rains the area received in the previous season compounded by bad roads.

* Violence Owing to Concessions Criticized

91AF0498A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
15 Nov 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Opinion"]

[Text] We are certain that to the majority of Zambians it does not really matter which political model the country will adopt at the end of the current political debate.

It is also indisputable that most people would like to see a peaceful and orderly political transition devoid of actions which lend credence to the fallacy that Zambia is on the brink of a major political disaster.

The UNIP [United National Independence Party] leadership has exhibited a rare show of political magnanimity and tolerance in an effort to ensure that our country remains united despite the many subtle attempts by the enemies who are trying to sow seeds of discord through their surrogates.

In a true spirit of reconciliation, President Kaunda has pardoned many wrongdoers in an unprecedented move designed to forestall any divisions in the nation. Treason convicts, suspected coup plotters and looters were among the beneficiaries of the presidential pardon.

What is regrettable, however, is that this act of mercy was construed by some as a blanket pardon covering all other wrongdoers who may be guilty of similar transgressions in future.

For, how else can one interpret the orgy of destruction witnessed in Choma on Tuesday?

The hooligans masquerading as political agitators must be brought to book to deter other criminals from fanning political unrest in this country.

Unless authorities are seen to be firm, those tasked with the maintenance of law and order will unwittingly be encouraging irrational and violent behaviour as a means of exacting political concessions.

The leadership has accepted the demand for the reintroduction of multi-partyism and the constitutional commission is already busy gathering evidence.

What logical reason would one have for resorting to acts of political hooliganism?

We appreciate the good measure of restraint and tolerance shown by the leadership, but the country risks

sliding into a state of anarchy unless the current wave of lawlessness is dealt with firmly.

Whatever the outcome of the multi-party polls next year, Zambians should remain united—notwithstanding their political inclinations or affiliation. That is what will ultimately determine the level of political maturity which our nation has attained over the last 26 years.

ZIMBABWE

* European Community Signs New Aid Agreement

91AF0508D Harare *THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE*
(Farming Gazette supplement) in English
30 Nov 90 p 19

[Text] Zimbabwe and the European Community (EC) were today scheduled to sign a new \$308 million aid agreement, to finance on-going resettlement and rural development projects, triangular food deals and the structural adjustment programme, the EC said in a statement.

The statement said the two sides have agreed that the Lome IV financial protocol, for the period 1990 to 1995, should concentrate on a number of existing projects, with emphasis on rural development.

The aid agreement is the third since 1982, when the EC gave Zimbabwe \$171.5 million under Lome II for the period 1982 to 1985, and over \$269 million under Lome III which has been disbursed between 1985 and 1990.

The EC said the largest project under Lome II was the construction of a new 75,000-tonne grain silo in Bulawayo, to increase Zimbabwe's grain storage capacity.

The aid agreement also financed a project worth over \$44 million to eradicate the foot-and-mouth disease in areas along the border with Botswana, and tsetse fly in the Zambezi Valley area.

The statement said over 14,000 square kilometres of land have been cleared of tsetse fly, releasing a substantial area for agriculture, grazing and wildlife for the communal people.

Under Lome III, which expires at the end of this year, the EC funds have concentrated on rural development, benefiting agricultural parastatals such as the Grain Marketing Board (GMB), the Agricultural Development Authority (ADA), and the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC).

Lome III has also financed a land-use project in the Kanyati and Gatshe-Gatshe District.

The project is designed to restrict agriculture and grazing to suitable areas, particularly those cleared of tsetse fly, said the statement.

"Although complex, the project could, if its apparent success is confirmed, be followed by similar projects

over larger areas, and thus serve as a model for the sustainable development of other parts of the Zambezi Valley," the statement said.

It said both Lome II and III aid agreements have financed over 3,000 micro-rural projects, intended to develop Zimbabwe's communal lands.

"The micro-projects programme has thus become an important instrument for the development of Zimbabwe's communal areas. Agricultural production, social infrastructure and education have been the main sectors of concentration within the programme from the beginning," the statement said.

"The scope is wide indeed, varying from reconstruction of primary schools and health clinics, to fisheries cooperatives on Lake Kariba and other forms of employment-generating schemes in the rural areas."

"Given the almost unlimited demand for small projects at grass-root level, the micro-project can be expected to take up an even significantly greater share of Lome IV," said the statement.

It said a \$49 million project to strengthen the Department of Agricultural and Extension Services (Agritex), and to accelerate small-scale irrigation development will start soon.

*** German Program Aids Transport, Construction**

91AF0508C Harare THE HERALD in English
30 Nov 90 p 4

[Text] Zimbabwe and Germany have signed an aid programme worth \$150 million to finance various development projects in the country.

The agreement was signed by the Senior Secretary for Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Cde Elisha Mushayakarara, and the German director for the African region in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, Mr Hubert Linhart, in Harare recently.

The money will be used to finance development projects under the rural transport programme and to buy equipment and spares for the construction industry.

Some of the money will be used to buy equipment for the rehabilitation of the Harare-Mutare railway line and Gokwe's rural water supply programme.

Besides financing ongoing projects, a new project which is designed to meet the medical equipment of various district hospitals was also conducted.

*** Law Society Condemns Proposed Amendments**

91AF0509B Harare THE HERALD in English
7 Dec 90 p 13

[Text] The Law Society of Zimbabwe has criticised three of several amendments being considered by Parliament to the Constitution—corporal punishment, hanging and

the barring of courts from adjudicating in disputes over compensation for property expropriated.

"The council of the Law Society of Zimbabwe, on behalf of the legal profession, views with grave concern certain proposals made by the government to amend the Constitution," said the society in a statement yesterday.

The Constitution, particularly, the Declaration of Rights, as interpreted and adjudicated upon by the Judiciary, provided the only protection of the individual against unjustified encroachment on basic human rights by the Legislature or the Executive.

The council believes that it is absolutely critical, therefore, that the Executive and the Legislature respect the role of the Judiciary in this process."

If the proposed amendments were implemented, said the society, this would undermine the proper balance inherent in the doctrine of the separation of powers.

"It will erode public confidence in the belief that the Executive and the Legislature are committed to upholding the fundamental rights enshrined in our Constitution, and undermine confidence that rights which they now enjoy will not be unjustifiably removed."

The implementation of the amendments would also damage the country's steadily improving international image in the area of human rights and the rule of law.

On the proposed corporal punishment amendment, the society said the government was seeking to circumvent a Supreme Court decision, which had previously been accepted by the government to the extent that the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act was amended appropriately.

*** Paper Comments on Land Bill Proposals**

91AF0509C Harare THE HERALD in English
10 Dec 90 p 8

[Text] Few bills to Parliament have provoked as much controversy and debate as the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 11) Bill which is now before the House.

However, while the debate on part of the Bill that relates to the constitutionality of executing the death penalty by hanging and reintroduction of corporal punishment are academic to the ordinary Zimbabwean, the opposite is true as far as sections dealing with land acquisition are concerned.

What apparently has got the legal community's goat is the proposal in the Bill to exclude the judiciary in the process of determining what is "adequate" compensation for land that the government would have acquired compulsorily for development purposes such as resettlement.

According to the proposal, the government alone will determine the compensation with no recourse left to the

land owner. This, it is argued, impinges on the Declaration of Rights as stated in our Constitution.

The Law Society said it believed it was "absolutely critical that the Executive and the Legislature respect the role of the Judiciary" as the adjudicators who provide the only protection on the "basic human rights by the Legislature and the Executive."

The Chief Justice, Mr Anthony Gubbay, and his predecessor, Mr Enoch Dumbutshena, have also spoken strongly on much the same lines. It is important to note, however, that none of them disputed the cause for government's decision to take action.

The minister of justice, legal and parliamentary affairs Cde Emmerson Mnangagwa, steering the Bill through its second reading in the House last week, explained in simple terms that land was desperately needed for resettlement and the government needed the instrument to acquire it for the general good of the people.

Cde Mnangagwa might as well have said this Bill is all or overwhelmingly about land. How many in the majority of our people really care how you execute a person who lawfully deserves to be executed?

The pressure on the government from land owners who see this Bill as directed at them is enormous. But they and their supporters are treading on soft ground as it is a fact that the vast majority of the people do not have land and need to be resettled by the State.

It is also a fact of our life and a legacy of almost 100 years of colonialism, that only a few large tracts of arable land and will not give up willingly for any use by the State even for resettlement.

If they really have to sell it they want to determine the price themselves. If the State refuses such easily manipulated market prices, they want to resort to the courts for arbitration.

How one came to be a land owner in the first place is a can of worms no land owner wants to tamper with presently. Nor is there much enthusiasm in pointing out the fact that land ownership is pure legal fiction that has classified land as property and this has been perpetuated over the years.

Land is the natural attribute of State sovereignty and territorial integrity of a country. It is for that reason that land is supposed to be for the general populace's well-being and development and the State, not individuals, should ideally determine the price as guardians of the territory of Zimbabwe on behalf of its people.

The State, not any individual, should have ultimate authority on all the land within our borders. Were it not for the legal fiction, land would not qualify as property that one acquires, owns and disposes of.

Some countries have done away mortgaging land. Their land is there only to be leased over specified periods for specified purposes.

It is for that reason that landless peasants in communal areas should only be given free life-long leases to the land they occupy so that they may not sell it like they could if they were given title deeds to the land. Few rich members of society could end up buying their land causing further dislocation of the population and consolidating the hold of the rich few on land.

Such a scenario was played out early in the century in a European country where the peasants sold their land to sheep farmers who later reneged on their word of mouth promise to allow the peasants to stay and drove them off the land in order to "settle" their sheep.

We are not suggesting that because of the legal fiction that classified land as property that can be owned, the State must therefore confiscate it from the few who own it in order to satisfy the general interest of the landless majority. What we strongly believe is that the interest of the vast majority must transcend the economic interests of the few.

We do not expect that once the government has acquired the powers it seeks it will immediately proceed to confiscate land willy-nilly. We expect it to be as good as its word and to primarily target under-utilised or abandoned land. After all, it will not be acting in the public interest if, for instance, it acquired whole productive farms for the resettlement of a few peasants who could be moved elsewhere.

On the Declaration of Rights, does not the Constitution at present provide for the derogation of fundamental rights as enunciated in the Constitution in the public interest in cases in emergency or even for town planning purposes? Why then would a constitutional derogation of such rights be so sacrilegious?

*** Bill on Expropriated Land Compensation Debated**

91AF0509A Harare THE HERALD in English
7 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] The bill proposing far-reaching amendments to the Constitution was debated in Parliament yesterday with the government defending proposals on how compensation for expropriated land should be assessed and plans to reintroduce corporal punishment for juveniles and confirm hanging as constitutional.

The Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Cde Emmerson Mnangagwa, yesterday declared that the government could not allow poor and landless Zimbabweans to be held to ransom by a few, but economically powerful landowners.

He told Parliament that as a progressive democratic government firmly committed to a massive programme of social and economic reforms, it was important that

the land question be resolved as part of the struggle against ignorance, poverty and disease.

"We cannot, with decent conscience, allow the small but economically powerful section of our community, that is the rich landowners, to hold to ransom our impoverished landless peasantry, who constitute the over-whelming majority of our people," he said during the second reading of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 11) Bill.

He appealed to the rich landowners to display exemplary patriotism by making meaningful sacrifices to the land redistribution programme.

In terms of the Bill, land, including used land, buildings and unexhausted improvements to land, will be capable of being acquired compulsorily for settlement, land reorganisation, environmental conservation, the utilisation of natural resources or the relocation of persons.

At present, only underused and unused land can be acquired for settlement.

Cde Mnangagwa said the Bill specified that compensation payable for compulsory acquisition of land would have to be "fair" and be paid within a "reasonable" time.

Under the existing laws, such compensation must be "adequate" and paid "promptly."

He said Parliament would have the power to determine the principles on, and the manner in which, the amount of compensation for the compulsory acquisition of land for public purpose would be assessed.

"The absolute right granted under the existing provision to remit compensation out of the country in scarce foreign exchange will not be abolished," said the minister.

He said Zimbabwe was not the first democratic country in the world to use compulsory acquisition of private property to achieve the primary objectives of its social and economic reforms.

He cited the United States, Britain and India as having enshrined in their laws the right, by the government, to acquire private property compulsorily for public purposes.

"This right, which is like the power of taxation, is an offspring of political necessity and is supposed to be based upon an implied reservation by every government that private property acquired by its citizens under its protective laws may be taken or its use controlled for public benefit irrespective of the wishes of the owner," he said.

The government and not the judiciary would be the best judge of what the nation could afford to pay for the compulsory acquisition of private land for public purposes.

"Government does not wish to find itself involved or embroiled in a somewhat macabre debate over which is the best form, or the least painful way of executing the death sentence," said Cde Mnangagwa on the topic of hanging.

The minister said the government felt strongly that the abolition of the death penalty should be a matter for both the executive and Parliament to decide after consulting widely.

"Government will not and cannot countenance a situation where the death penalty is de facto abolished through the back door by a declaration by the courts that the manner of executing the death sentence by hanging constitutes inhuman and degrading punishment."

The increasing number of juveniles in jails has forced the government to seek the reintroduction of whipping as a form of punishment, Cde Mnangagwa said.

Corporal punishment for juvenile offenders had to be reintroduced to improve the administration of justice.

"Government is gravely concerned at the large numbers of juvenile offenders serving in prison. It considers it undesirable that young offenders should be brought into contact with adult offenders," he said.

* U.K. Gives Grant for New Airport Radar

91AF0508A Harare THE HERALD in English
30 Nov 90 p 4

[Text] The British government has given Zimbabwe a grant of \$7.3 million for the installation of a new radar at the Harare International Airport which will cost \$19 million.

An agreement was signed between the senior secretary for finance, economic planning and development, Cde Elisha Mushayakarara and the British High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Kieran Prendergast, for the provision of the new approach radar equipment.

The present radar at the airport is almost obsolete and had worked once during the last 14 years. This was during the Non-Aligned Movement summit conference held in Harare in 1986.

Recently, the minister of transport and national supplies, Mr Denis Norman, said there had been complaints from other airlines concerning the lack of a radar at the airport.

It is hoped that the new radar would enhance the air traffic control facilities at the airport. The radar will be manufactured by Siemens Plessey Radar Limited of Britain and is of the latest design. The six main international airports in Britain use similar radars.

Cde Mushayakarara said the installation of the new radar at the airport had become important because of the increased air traffic.

A loan agreement for \$11.7 million will be signed between the Department of Civil Aviation and Siemens Plessey Radar Limited.

* Protocol Agreement on French Aid Signed

91AF0574B Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE
in English 21 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] About \$85 million worth of French assistance to Zimbabwe in the fifth financial protocol between France and Zimbabwe will be disbursed during 18 months following the signing of the protocol agreement in Paris on Friday last week.

The assistance which comes to Zimbabwe as 50 percent soft loan and 50 percent grant will cover air and road transport, electricity, equipment and vocational training and the commodity import programme.

As regards aviation, the Airport of Paris Authority has been shortlisted in the tender negotiations for the construction of the new terminal at Harare International Airport.

An amount of \$10 million has been set aside for this as a soft loan and \$2 million would be a grant. This would be contingent on the French company winning the contract.

In road transport \$8 million has been ear-marked for the manufacture of chassis for Peugeot pick-up trucks, and \$16 million for the manufacture of chassis for Renault buses and trucks.

The French Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Pierre Garrique-Guyonnaud, said the signing of the protocol represented a political signal that France was confident about Zimbabwe's financial policy and its human rights record.

* Company Succeeds in Aircraft Engine Repair

91AF0508B Harare THE HERALD (Business Herald supplement) in English 6 Dec 90 p 4

[Text] Field Aircraft Services has successfully completed a record \$10 million worth of export orders in 1990 for the repair of aero engines, making a major breakthrough in the highly competitive international market.

Last year the company completed orders worth \$5.6 million. The record orders were achieved through extensive marketing in Britain, Australia, Asia and mainly Africa. More than 28 countries from all over the world sent their planes to Zimbabwe for repairs.

Field Aircraft Services specialises in the repair and overhaul of the Pratt and Whitney Turboprop PT6 engine. It is one of 12 such facilities in the world to offer such a service.

The marketing manager of the company, Mr Cyrille Fournier, said at first very few people in the world were prepared to accept that such a sophisticated industry could exist in Africa.

"We had to prove to our customers that our turn-around time and quality control was as good if not better than our competitors in the rest of the world, before we could be considered as a serious alternative for aviation maintenance," he said.

"Today we have built a strong international reputation and we are a force to be reckoned with in the aviation industry," said Mr Fournier.

To compete internationally, Field Aircraft had to match the high standards set in the industry for safety reasons. As a recognition of the standard achieved, the company holds the Department of Civil Aviation approval of many countries in America and Europe.

To compete with overhaul facilities in Europe and America Field Aircraft Services had to repair all engines in a short period of time. This called for a reliable and efficient procurement system as all spares were imported.

Despite the disadvantage of long supply lines Field Aircraft met the challenge of doing all their repairs in good time. Mr Fournier said they were able to do this because of the prompt and efficient service of customs and the Ministry of Transport.

"Their prompt actions on export orders has allowed us to meet the turnaround time required by our industry and has even provided us with a competitive edge on our competitors," he said.

Field Aircraft recently won the Bank of Credit and Commerce Zimbabwe-sponsored exporter of the year award for its successful operations this year.

* Zimbank Releases Figures on Production

91AF0573D Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE
in English 21 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] Zimbabwe's mineral production in the first seven months of the year, at \$721 million, was 7.1 percent up on the corresponding period of 1989.

Latest Zimbank figures show that the increase was largely due to higher unit prices. Mining production volume was only 1.1 percent higher.

The output for gold, accounting for 37 percent of total mining production, was 19 percent higher in value partly because of firmer world bullion market prices. Gold output volume also rose by 6 percent, as did that of coal, by 11 percent.

However the volume of nickel, asbestos, copper and chrome ore produced fell by 9 percent, 12 percent, 10 percent, and 13 percent, respectively.

The bank says that with base metal and mineral prices continuing below last year's level, and economies and world trade growth both slowing, most mineral output values are unlikely to increase.

But gold production, which last year reached 515,000 ounces—its highest in 23 years—will rise again. In August, the gold floor price was raised from \$700 to \$950 an ounce, which the Chamber of Mines then described as the most realistic level since 1984.

"Provided gold bullion prices hold above 1989's average of nearly US\$381 an ounce, the absolute, as well as the relative worth of gold in mining production will continue rising," says Zimbank.

The bank also reports that manufacturing production volume rose by 3.8 percent in the first seven months of 1990, compared with the corresponding period of 1989.

Apart from the wood and furniture manufacturing groups, all industrial groups recorded positive growth. However, three of the five groups which together account for three quarters of output, recorded slower growth than last year.

On employment, the bank reports that formal sector employment, excluding agriculture, totalled 891,600 in September 1989, a rise of 24,300 or 3.4 percent over September, 1988. Employment increased in all sectors except mining and quarrying, and finance. Including formal sector agricultural employment of 280,300, total wage employment is apparently growing by only 4 percent annually.

"This is nevertheless a distinct improvement on the average 10,000 jobs created annually in the past 10 years, due partly, to the actual 5.8 percent, and estimated 4.5 percent real GDP [gross domestic product] rises, respectively, in 1988 and 1989.

*** Labor Relations Changes Not Yet in Effect**

91AF0573C Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE
in English 21 Dec 90 p 2

[Text] Employers have been reminded that no changes have yet been made to the Labour Relations Act, and all that presently exist are merely government proposals to restore employers' rights to hire and fire.

Apparently, some employers have already been terminating employment contracts under the misconception that the provisions of the Labour Relations Act of 1985 have already lapsed.

About two months ago, the government produced a draft Labour Relations Amendment Bill, containing various proposed amendments to the Act.

At about the same time, government also put out proposals in principle for the overhaul of the present dispute-resolving mechanism, part XIII of the Act, which

involves a proposed fundamental change in the law relating to the termination of employment.

It was envisaged that provision would be made in the Act for sectors to adopt approved disciplinary codes, or codes of conduct, which would provide appropriate punishments, up to and including dismissal, for listed offences and would also provide for the procedure to be followed in investigating and punishing acts of misconduct.

The effect of this proposed change would be to enable an employer to terminate the services of an employee provided that the employer followed the procedures and acted in accordance with the provisions of an approved disciplinary code.

The Institute of Personnel Management of Zimbabwe (IPMZ), has however, pointed out to members that even if the present proposals are made into law, the employer will not have an unfettered right to "fire"—he will still have to follow established procedures.

"As things stand at the moment, the law has not changed. The Termination of Employment Regulations (S.I 371 of 1985) are still in force, and must be followed," said the institute in a statement.

Other amendments to the Labour Relations Act also being considered include that of the 90 days maternity leave to which a female employee is entitled, 45 days must be taken before the birth of the child, and 45 days after.

It is also proposed that a female employee will only be able to take her one-hour off each day to feed her baby for a maximum of six months after the birth of the baby.

The present lengthy dispute-resolving mechanism will be simplified by the introduction of conciliation officers in place of the present labour relations officers. Disputes will go directly from conciliation officers to the Labour Relations Tribunal, and the present regional hearing officers and the Labour Relations Board will be scrapped.

It is also proposed that in future, free collective bargaining for wages, without parameters, will be permitted. Wage negotiations will not be restricted to a given time each year, and employment councils will be able to negotiate on wage-levels and other conditions of service whenever they consider it appropriate. Employment boards will be replaced by employment councils, in addition to other amendments.

"It is stressed that all the legal changes mentioned are, at this stage, only proposals—the law has not been changed yet," said the IPMZ.

"The proposed changes will have to be steered through the various ministries involved, and through Parliament, and obtain the President's consent before they become law."

In the meantime, government's plans for amendments to the labour laws as well as a number of other relevant issues centering on trade liberalisation and its impact on various aspects of personnel management, will be examined at the eighth annual labour relations briefing, jointly sponsored by the IPMZ and the National Commercial Employers Association of Zimbabwe, to be held in Harare on 22 January, and in Bulawayo on 24 January.

* State Reassures Farmers on Land Bill

91AF0573B Harare THE HERALD in English
22 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] The Government has reassured the farming community that it has no intention of grabbing land for the resettlement programme, but that the purpose of amending Section 16 of the constitution is to enable it to implement the programme smoothly and effectively.

"All these malicious rumours that have been circulating around, and some even going to the extent of talking about nationalisation of land and properties, have no bearing on the reality of the situation whatsoever.

"Amendment of the Constitution is a matter of national sovereignty and is, in a way, sacrosanct. The actual implementation details that should be of concern to a genuine farmer are still to be worked out in the relevant forthcoming Bill amending the Land Acquisition Act of 1985," the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, said in a statement last night.

The farming community had already been invited to bring forward proposals which could be considered in the formulation of the Land Acquisition Bill. Discussions were also already under way, said Cde Mangwende, between the Government and representatives of large-scale commercial farmers to examine the issue of land distribution.

The Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill was passed by Parliament on 12 December. The amendments to the Constitution included changes to Section 16 relating to limitations imposed by the Lancaster House Constitution on the acquisition of land for resettlement purposes.

The major issues covered by the new Bill relate to land prices, land designation, capital gains tax, acquisition of used land, payment of compensation in local currency, and payment within a reasonable period.

While the Lancaster House Constitution provided that compensation for acquisition of land had to be "adequate," the amendment would now provide that the price paid in the acquisition of land for resettlement must be "fair."

Cde Mangwende said the measures to control land prices would affect land speculators wanting to make a fortune

by demanding exorbitant prices rather than genuine farmers who sell in order to buy another one.

The Government would continue to follow the existing land acquisition procedures of negotiating with farmers using the services of professional land valuation officers. The officers would take the average price a hectare in each agro-ecological region including permanent improvements.

Land designation for resettlement purposes is necessary to avoid the undesirable present system of acquiring land in a haphazard way. With the current offering of land in bits and pieces and the farms offered scattered, it becomes difficult to establish proper resettlement schemes where the necessary infrastructure can be economically provided.

With the magnitude of the resettlement programme well defined and the areas remaining under large-scale commercial farming mapped out, those intending to buy farms would know where to go and those farmers wanting to relocate themselves would know which areas they would be guaranteed and not required to move again.

The Government had also decided that once a fair price had been established, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development could consider the removal of capital gains tax for a farmer who sells a farm in order to buy another one or to invest in the agricultural industry.

"Our aim is to be able to identify under-utilised land first and then target such land for resettlement purposes first as a start...before moving on to farms which are being intensively utilised.

* PRC Company Wins Bulawayo Pipe Contract

91AF0574C Harare THE HERALD in English
21 Dec 90 p 6

[Text] Bulawayo—A Chinese company has won the \$28.5 million tender to supply and deliver 47 km of piping for a water pipeline from Ncema Dam to Bulawayo.

A statement by the Mayor, Cllr Dennis Ndlovu, said the council had on Wednesday received a telegram from the principal urban planner of the World Bank to the effect that the bank, which is funding the project, had no objection in awarding the contract to the China Metallurgical Construction Corporation.

After receiving the clearance, a telegram was immediately dispatched to CMCC notifying them that their tender had been successful and yesterday, the Town Clerk, Cde Mike Ndubiwa, followed this up with a telephone call to the corporation.

Last September, the Bulawayo City Council recommended to the World Bank that the contract of supplying 47 km of pipes and specials be awarded to the corporation.

The company had submitted the lowest tender both in terms of foreign currency content and overall details.

The tender is worth \$28 554 277.49 [as printed] of which \$18 488 209 is to be paid in foreign currency.

According to the statement, in its original tender submitted in August, the CMCC had indicated that if successful, delivery of the material would begin this month or in January.

The rate of delivery would be 3,000 metres a month and this was expected to be completed in 20 months.

The same company is currently doing similar work for Harare.

"While this is good Christmas news for the residents of the city, it does not mean, unfortunately, the end of water rationing and therefore there is need for the residents to exercise constraint in the use of our water as the project is anticipated to take not less than three years to complete, considering that the delivery of piping and specials will take nearly two years," the statement said.

"So it will be some time before water begins to flow through our new pipes."

The existing water pumping system here is incapable of adequately supplying water to Bulawayo, whose population is growing fast, constraining existing facilities.—Ziana.

* Beira Port Requires Payment in U.S. Dollars

91AF0574A Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE
in English 21 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] In a surprise move that could result in the immediate re-routing of some regional cargo through South African ports, Mozambican port authorities have changed payment regulations to a system of prepayment at Beira and only in United States dollars.

Up to the time of going to Press yesterday, local freight companies, representatives of commerce and industry, banks, and the President's Office, among other interested parties, were locked in a meeting at the offices of the Beira Corridor Authority in Harare.

Importers into countries such as Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Botswana, Zambia, Zaire, Malawi, and South Africa, normally pay their railage freight charges at destination and in local currencies.

In the case of Zimbabwean importers, this means that they pay in Harare, in Zimbabwe dollars. Thereafter, the National Railways of Zimbabwe and the Mozambican railways, CFM, have an agreement whereby they credit each other.

But without prior warning, agents and importers into Zimbabwe and surrounding countries were recently informed that the railage had to be prepaid at Beira, in United States dollars.

This new regulation was to take effect from November 1, but importers were given a 90-day grace period. However, in another new twist, this grace period was suddenly cancelled on the grounds that the person who had given it was not authorised to do so, and the new system now comes into effect on January 1.

This means that as from the end of next week, local importers will have to make arrangements to pay in United States dollars at Beira.

* Zambezi River Authority Council Meets

91AF0645E Harare THE HERALD in English
10 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Energy ministers from Zimbabwe and Zambia met in Harare early this week to discuss the sharing of assets of the now defunct Central African Power Corporation, whose functions in part were replaced by the Zambezi River Authority [ZRA].

The sixth council of ministers of the Zambezi River Authority also looked at other matters that related to the relatively new authority in an effort to set it on the path to maturity, the ZRA co-chairman, Mr Mbambo Sianga, told reporters yesterday.

Mr Sianga is the Zambian Minister of Power, Transport and Communications. He co-chaired the meeting with the Minister of Energy and Water Resources and Development, Cde Herbert Ushewokunze.

Mr Sianga said although the headquarters of the ZRA would be in Zambia, it did not necessarily mean that the executive would also be Zambian. During its council of ministers meeting in Harare in 1989, no headway was made concerning the sharing of assets of Capco [expansion unknown].

Cde Ushewokunze told a Press conference yesterday that an assessor had submitted the draft final report which had been considered by the council of ministers. "The final report on ex-Capco assets is expected to be ready soon. This will spell out the final division of assets between Zimbabwe and Zambia," he said.

Cde Ushewokunze was pleased to note that there had been progress on the Batoka Gorge where a new hydro powerhouse would be built. He said, however, that it would take about eight or nine years before the power station starts operating because a lot of groundwork needed to be done.

The main function of the ZRA is to maintain the Kariba complex and investigate new sites for future power generation centres on the Zambezi River. The authority

started operating in 1989 when it took over functions from Capco, which used to administer the Kariba power complex.

*** Farmers Association Urges Resettlement**

91AF0645A Harare THE HERALD in English
14 Jan 91 p 1

[Excerpt] The National Farmers' Association of Zimbabwe [NFAZ] has called upon the Government to intensify the resettlement programme because the availability of land provides security to most communal farmers as it is an important input into agriculture.

Commenting on the ensuing debate on the recent changes to the Constitution, in particular Section 16 dealing with the land question, the association said in a statement issued at the weekend that communal farmers strongly supported the passing of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No 11) Bill.

The NFAZ said it would be gratified to see the successful implementation of the Bill.

Communal farmers were poor, not because of their inability to farm, but rather owing to the circumstances in which they were placed by their former colonial masters.

"Land has become one of the most fundamental issues facing Zimbabweans today. This is because of fatal mistakes made by our colonial masters and the then colonial governments.

"The land tenure system created the dual agricultural system in which one sector with adequate services produced export-oriented crops while the other poorly serviced and densely populated sector produced largely non-exportable crops."

The tenure further grouped the rural black population in large numbers which led to the present land degradation owing to increasing population and pressure on the land.

If the situation was left unchecked, it could lead to serious problems in future.

"It is sad to note that a group of 4,000 farmers has title to 12 million hectares of the country's best land. And about 900,000 communal households have access to 16 million hectares of poor, mountainous and low rainfall Zimbabwe. Districts of Zaka, Chimanmani and Chipinge have clear examples of poor communal areas."

The NFAZ said apart from poor quality, land available to communal farmers was greatly inadequate. As a result in most cases arable land had encroached into grazing land owing to increases in population.

"Arable land continues to be fragmented into smaller and smaller units as population continues to increase. Given the other limitations, such units can no longer economically sustain the farmers." [passage omitted]

BENIN

* Official Referendum Results Announced

91AF0566A Cotonou LA NATION in French
11 Dec 90 p 3

[Unattributed article: "HCR [High Council of the Republic]: Official Proclamation of the Referendum Results Before the Chief of State and Prime Minister"]

[Excerpts: Yesterday, eight days after the constitutional referendum, the High Council of the Republic held an ordinary meeting at the Entente Council on a background of consultations between the three transition institutions. [passage omitted]

The members of the High Council were informed of the elections results from Abidjan, Tripoli, Niamey, Lagos, Dakar, Brussels, Canada, Paris, China, Libreville, Koumassi, Accra, etc., and President Mathieu Kerekou told them that, the day before the elections, Togolese authorities had apprised him of fact that Benin does not have an embassy or a consulate in Togo, and therefore no house where people could vote. This explains that Beninese residing in Togo did not vote: it was because there was no place to vote, not because of any domestic event in Togo. As for those in the FRG, they fell under an internal law that prohibits any vote by foreign residents.

Four days after the referendum, no petition to dispute the results had been filed with the Legal Commission under the referendum law. That is because all has been quite aboveboard. Despite this, President Hubert Maga made a few comments when he acknowledged the people's verdict. He condemned the prime minister's stance in favor of a full "yes"; he mentioned a few minor incidents, which were reported in the press and pointed out: "I do not say that the elections were rigged, but the results are so overwhelming that one is stunned. However, the high abstention rate (35 percent) is significant." Mr. Hubert Maga ascribed it to poorly organized voter registration operations and the fact that some citizens may have lost their voter registration cards. He then suggested reopening the electoral rolls for the third time. Bishop de Souza [the HCR chairman] did not accede to this request under the law.

After providing clarifications of a few points, the HCR chairman reached the solemn moment when, according to the law, he officially informed the Beninese people of the referendum results. "... Making do with the modest latitude given us to legislate during the transition period, we thank God for this day of 2 December and acknowledge the Beninese people's determination to add each his contribution to the common work of national recovery in harmony with the international community. Witness the woman who had given birth the day before and insisted on going to the polls to fulfill her duty; another, near her time and very tired, also went to the polls... These are reasons to hope for the future of this country... We declare that the bill on the Constitution of the

Republic of Benin was adopted on 2 December 1990 with 2,052,105 registered voters and 1,304,870 voting: 926,860, i.e., 73.3 percent, voted white and 252,064, i.e., 19.9 percent, voted green. Total votes for the bill: 1,254,983, i.e., 96.9 percent; total against (red ballot papers): 85,717, i.e., 6.8 percent."

And he solemnly added: "We declare that the constitutional bill is now the Constitution of the Republic of Benin that will govern this country in years to come until further notice." [passage omitted]

* Recent Foreign Trade Trends Examined

91AF0566C Cotonou LA NATION in French
13-14 Dec 90 p 8

[Article by Leon Brathier: "Beninese Foreign Trade Trends"]

[Text]

- Cotton is in progress.
- Fancy cloth is threatened.
- France buys less.
- The deficit gets worse.

Our foreign trade is in bad shape. Since 1986, our trade balance deficit has kept increasing: in 1988, it was 56 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs, i.e., about 10 percent of our gross domestic product. In 1985, it was 22.4 billion. However, in the evaluation study that contains these figures, the Directorate of Foreign Trade [DCE] warns that this deficit could be reduced by the estimated amount of nonrecorded exports. As is known, in Benin, a considerable amount of informal trade takes place on nonofficial markets that are hard to identify. But all estimates show a marked worsening trend for 1988.

Benin is a country of transit, it is par excellence a country where economic operators prefer import and export activities, many imports are intended for re-export to neighboring countries or the rest of the world. According to the DCE, they accounted for 38 percent of Beninese exports during the years 1986-88. They involve mostly speculative products, such as rice, wheat flour, second-hand clothing, textile, etc., to mention only the most important by volume. Cocoa, which Benin does not produce but nevertheless exported, is viewed by the DCE as the incipient cornerstone of this type of exports. These exports are estimated to have contributed 8.5 billion CFA francs to the national economy.

If we disregard this specific sector, Beninese domestic exports shrink tremendously. They consist mainly in agricultural products. Cotton and cotton products are still on the upward trend started in 1987. Thus, after a marked decline in 1988, cotton exports surged from 12,250 tons to 44,976 tons by volume, and from 5.07 billion CFA francs to 17,547 billion in 1989. That is an estimated increase of 267 and 246 percent for cotton fiber. Cotton, therefore, represents a steady item in

Beninese exports, whereas vegetable oils, hides, shrimps, mineral water, cashews, etc. are falling.

In other words, during the past five years, and more particularly in 1988, Benin's imports were much larger than its exports of domestic products to the countries that supplied its domestic imports (imports destined to be re-exported). As a comparison, France (the leading trade partner of Benin for all transactions) sold 30,039 billion CFA francs' worth of goods to Benin in 1988, but during the same period it imported only 1,086 billion's worth of Beninese products. Last year, Beninese imports from France amounted to 24,950 billion CFA francs; its exports, to France were estimated at 2,050 billion. In 1985, these figures were 37,406 billion and 4,799 billion CFA francs, respectively. This shows a marked import-export imbalance.

Another export that is rapidly increasing is fancy cloth. With an increase of 1630 [as published] percent from 1988 to 1989, it is one of the new products that look good in Beninese exports! Unfortunately, its prospects are threatened by the protectionism of neighboring countries that also manufacture fancy cloth. The DCE advised the national company that produces fancy cloth to diversify its markets.

As far as our much-vaunted oil is concerned, the drop is considerable: exports of 30 billion CFA francs in 1985, and only 6.5 billion in 1989.

A traditional and privileged buyer of Beninese exports, France has lost its title of leading Beninese client. In 1985, France imported 6,887 billion CFA francs' worth of goods from Benin; in 1988, it imported only 2,050 billion's worth. This in spite of the fact that its imports (mostly coffee, cotton, shrimps, and fish) increased from under 1 billion CFA francs in 1988 to 2,050 billion in 1989. Other European clients, such as Portugal, which buys cotton, did better from 1986 to 1987. In 1987, Portugal bought 7.2 billion's worth of cotton fiber from Benin.

In Asia, both China and Thailand are the largest buyers of Beninese products, by volume and by value. In Africa, the leading buyers are Nigeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Niger, etc.

The DCE evaluation study notes that the traditional suppliers of Benin remained the same during the period 1987-89. West Europe is the main supplier of Benin. For its re-export trade, Benin imported a considerable quantity of rice from Thailand, which thus became one of our leading suppliers. Asia ranks second among Benin's suppliers.

What we should note from all these evaluations, is the decline of our exports of domestic products. Traditional Beninese products no longer sell well. All our traditional European clients seem to have lost much of their interest in Beninese products.

If we want to see an increase in our exports of domestic products, we must tackle immediately the structural problems of the Beninese production system, ensure that our products are competitive, diversify them, and hope that the current GATT round will bring about a better trade philosophy that will lower the protective barriers of certain markets. As for reversing the trend toward a deficit, that is not something we can do overnight. All we can do is strive to slow it down until all the economy heats up to an acceptable rate.

GHANA

* Statistical Service Issues Demographic Survey

* 1984 Census Procedures

91AF0644A Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC
in English 7 Jan 91 p 1

[Article by Kofi Yeboah-Agyemang]

[Text] The gathering of information on characteristics of the 1984 population census was based on the need for accuracy and reliability in data to achieve international comparability.

Therefore all the concepts and classifications used in the exercise were based on United Nations principles and recommendations of the 1980 Round of Population Census.

The assurance is contained in the introduction to the "Demographic and Economic Characteristic of the 1984 Census of Ghana" (National) published by the Statistical Service.

The introduction stresses that slight modifications were made to suit local conditions in certain instances to facilitate comparison with data from some earlier census in the country.

General principles of quality control were however enforced in the implementation of the census programme to ensure accuracy and reliability of the data collected.

The enumeration procedure as well as interpretation and application of concepts which were applied in the 1970 census were maintained for the 1984 census.

In the same vein, the geographical revision of the enumeration areas were also based on the 1970 maps to ensure continuity and comparability in enumeration areas, locality and regional statistics.

At the time of the census on 11 March 1984, there were 10 administrative regions in Ghana, namely Western Central, Greater Accra, Eastern, Volta, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Northern Upper East and Upper West regions.

Thus, apart from the boundary changes resulting from the establishment of new regions (Upper East and Upper West in January 1983 and Greater Accra from July

1982) the boundaries of the regions conform to those that existed at the time of the 1970 population census.

The introduction also states that in March 1984, there were 140 local authorities or councils, the same as were in 1970.

The local authority areas were classified into four categories based on population size and socio-economic level of development of the main settlement in the areas. These are the City Councils, Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Local Councils.

It further observes that for administrative convenience and to facilitate easy comparison with the 1960 and 1970 census data, Accra-Tema City Council was divided into two, namely Accra-Tema City Council (Accra District) and Accra-Tema City Council (Tema District) [as published].

The classification of localities as urban or rural was based on the size of the population. Localities with population of 5,000 or more were classified as urban while those with less than 5,000 as rural.

* 69 Percent Rural

91AF0644B Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC
in English 7 Jan 91 p 1

[Article by Kofi Yeboah-Agyemang]

[Text] Ghana's population is predominantly rural with 69 percent of the 1984 census figure of 12,296,081 living in the rural areas whilst 3,934,796 representing 32 percent live in urban areas.

Males constitute 49.32 percent or 6,063,848 whilst females account for 6,232,233 or 50.68 percent.

The 8,361,285 people enumerated from the rural areas are made up of 4,147,471 or 33.73 percent males and 4,213,814 or 34.77 percent as females.

In the urban area 1,916,377 or 15.59 percent are males as against 2,018,419 or 16.41 percent females.

These are contained in the Demographic and Economic Characteristics of the 1984 population census of Ghana (national) published by the Statistical Service.

According to the publication, which is among 23 reports published by the Statistical Service on the 1984 census, nearly 8,000,000 or 64 percent of the population were below 25 years at the time of enumeration and the pattern is uniform for both rural and urban areas with the youth in the majority.

There were 2,030,082 children under five years made up of 1,015,167 males and 1,014,915 females; 22,982 of the population were between the ages of 90 and 94 years with another 22,978 above 85 years; 11,164 and 11,818 of those between 90 and 94 years were males and females respectively with the corresponding figures for those above 95 years as 11,378 and 11,608.

According to the publication, the 1984 census was a "de facto count" meaning that only persons present in the country, irrespective of their nationality were enumerated at the place they were during the census night, midnight of 11 March 1984.

Those in ships and boats within the territorial waters of the country at the time, were also enumerated. However, Ghanaians outside the country at the census reference time, were not enumerated.

* Islamic Mission Holds National Convention

91AF0644C Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC
in English 9 Jan 91 p 6

[Article by Asiedu Marfo, Kumasi; quotation marks as published]

[Text] The Islamic Mission spent C33.3 [cedi's] million to complete various school projects to supplement efforts at enhancing the educational reform programmes in 1990.

The projects included the completion of six classroom blocks for the Berekum Islamic Primary School and another six classrooms forming the ground floor of a storey building for the Islamic JSS [Junior Secondary School] also at Berekum in the Brong Ahafo Region at the total cost of C27 million.

The rest were the construction of four classrooms for the Akumadan Islamic School which was completed at the cost of C5.6 million and the roofing of three classrooms, office and store for the Otaakrom Islamic Primary School in the Nkwawie district at the cost of C700,000.

The projects were funded through voluntary contributions, fund raising activities and communal labour by members of the mission.

Shiekh Harun Ahmed Appau, General Secretary of the Islamic Mission, announced these at the 28th annual national convention of the mission in Kumasi at the weekend. The theme for the convention was 'Islam and nation building.'

He said the mission has established a JSS for the Techiman Islamic Primary School and is also constructing a mission house for the Techiman branch of the mission.

Shiekh Adam M. Appiedu, National Imam of the Islamic Mission, advised the branches of the mission to establish schools in their areas and also assist in efforts at ensuring the proper development of children in the country.

He appealed to Moslems to avoid divisive tendencies and come together to promote Islamic activities and assist the government in the national reconstruction effort.

Alhaji Abubakar Ali, head of the Zongo community in Kumasi, noted that the adult literacy programme, the

Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) and the Primary Health Care programme are part of government's effort to establish a better society for the people.

IVORY COAST

* New Ministerial Appointees Discussed

91AF0570A Paris *JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE*
in French Jan 91 pp 88-92

[Article by Jean-Pierre Bejot: "The Professionals Take Over"]

[Text] It has taken the Ivory Coast 410 days to form a government that finally satisfies its financial backers. What the latter hoped for last year when the government was set up on 16 October 1989 was finally obtained at 1300 hours on 30 November 1990, when the new prime minister, Alassane Ouattara, officially announced the makeup of his government.

It took Ouattara 23 days—from 7 November, the date on which he was appointed prime minister, to 30 November, when the government was finally formed—to put together his team, leading one to conclude that bargaining over departures cannot have been easy. No matter, the changes have taken place and are noteworthy. It took 30 last year (including the chief of staff) to "manage the crisis." And they could not do it; on the contrary! Today, 19 (counting the prime minister) essentially owe their posts to their competence rather than their political past—or present. The maximum number demanded by the World Bank was 20, but to no avail. What Houphouët-Boigny could not manage, Alassane Ouattara has delivered.

Old Traveling Companions

Indeed, how could anyone have thought the chief of state would be able, in a direct confrontation with his government, to put his oldest political traveling companions out to pasture? Ouattara, a prime minister with no political past, has no such constraints. He is working for the future.

And so the old Ivorian political foxes make their exit. By 15 October 1989, four ministers had already left the government. Three are gone already so far this year and not from the back row either: Auguste Denise, Mathieu Ekra, and Emile Kei Boguinaud. Actually, Denise, a member of the Cabinet since April 1959, died several months ago, but his official funeral has still not taken place.

Mathieu Ekra had been in the government since 1961 and Emile Kei Boguinaud since 1976. A total of 22 have left, starting with the three minister-delegates: Paul Gui Dibo, Balla Keita, and Moise Koumoue Koffi. However, the latter two, deemed to be at the root of the social disturbances that marked 1990, were already "exiles" within the government. Balla Keita was minister of national education when the unrest began in the high

schools and universities. Moise Koumoue Koffi had become the unpopular minister of economy and finance who promoted an ill-fated austerity plan that resulted in wildcat strikes. Minister of Defense Jean Konan Banny is paying for the military rebellion and his somewhat hasty move into the spotlight, already visualizing himself with top billing!

On the whole, the remaining ministers stayed somewhat in the background all year long. Indeed, it was a year difficult to handle. Consequently, the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Water and Forest Resources, Technical Education, Professional Training and Primary Education, Justice, Labor, Internal Security and the Fight Against Drugs, Civil Service, Women's Promotion, Commerce, Tourism, Youth, Sports, and Social Affairs, Industry and Planning, Posts and Telecommunications, and Animal Husbandry will therefore be headed by someone new. Three ministers leave with honor, having won their deputy stripes in the most recent legislative elections, the first under the multiparty system. They are: Noel Nemin, keeper of the seals and minister of justice, Christophe Robert Ghobo, minister of animal husbandry, and Oumar Diarra, minister of industry and planning.

Prime Minister: Real Boss of Economy

The latter appeared as a competent aide to Alassane Ouattara in a key sector of the Ivorian economy. The departure of this technocrat for a political career will undoubtedly be perceived by some as a loss.

In addition, Jean-Jacques Bechio, former minister of civil service, was appointed a few days after the cabinet shakeup as the Ivory Coast's permanent ambassador to the United Nations.

The prime minister explained his choices the day after he formed his cabinet. He sought first of all "to avoid ministries that had no precise powers and next, to group the activities of the different ministries within more homogeneous departments."

The first such reorganization involves the office of Prime Minister. The prime minister will now also head up the Ministry of Economy and Finance. In this task, he will have the support of two minister-delegates to the prime minister (no longer to the president, as was previously the case). They are Kablan Daniel Duncan, minister-delegate to the prime minister in charge of the economy, finance, commerce, and planning, and Guy Alain-Emmanuel Gauze, minister-delegate to the prime minister in charge of raw materials.

Both were already in the cabinet. Kablan Daniel Duncan became boss of the Ministry of Economy and Finance on 5 July 1990, in the midst of a full-blown social crisis, an indication of the confidence placed in him. It is true that he used to work for the BCEAO [Central Bank of the West African States]—after working for the IMF (an itinerary the prime minister knows well)—where he

served as deputy director, head of the studies department, assistant to the national director from 1974 to 1986, then general director of the National Social Welfare Fund (CNPS) from 1986 to 1987, and finally, central director of national holdings and data processing until he joined the government.

Nor is Guy-Alain Gauze an unknown figure. Last year, at the age of 37, he joined the new government as the junior member, while retaining his powers under a different label (he previously served as minister-delegate to the president).

Six other ministers retain their ministerial posts, led by Leon Konan Koffi, "dean" of the current government since he has been in the cabinet since 1981. After heading the Ministry of Interior from 1981 to 1990, he now moves to Defense. Vamousa Bamba, Yed Esaie Angoran, and Alassane Salif N'Diaye are also "old hands," having served in the government since July 1986. Bamba, appointed minister of national education (a risky post, although the new school year began without incident), successively served as minister of construction and town planning (1986-89) and minister of public works, transport, construction and town planning (1989-90), where he was in a sense the "hatchet man" for Antoine Cesareo, former head of the DCGT [Directorate and Inspectorate of Public Works]. Nor was he a complete neophyte in National Education because he had served as director of planning and programming for the educational system.

Yed Esaie Angoran, newly appointed minister of industry, mines, and energy, benefits from the (logical) combination of two ministries: Mines, on the one hand, and Industry, on the other, now to be joined by Energy. Trained at the prestigious MIT in Boston, his entire career was in the mining sector until he was appointed minister of mines in July 1986.

Alassane Salif N'Diaye, who goes back to his Ministry of Scientific Research (now combined with Professional and Technical Education), temporarily replaced Balla Keita at the head of National Education last year after the latter's involuntary, forced departure. This former dean of the School of Science and Technology served as minister of scientific research (1986-89), minister of scientific research and culture (1989-90), minister of national education responsible for secondary and higher education, and scientific research and culture (February 1990-November 1990).

Two ministers who joined the government for the first time last year retain their posts. They are: Frederic-Francois-Alain Ekra, minister of public health and population (and now social welfare), and Auguste-Severin Miremont, who remains minister of communication and government spokesman.

The newcomers number 11, over half of the government and all experts in their respective fields of activity.

Essy Amara has been named minister of foreign affairs, a logical step for this diplomat just turned 46, who since 1973 has spent his entire career in Foreign Affairs and essentially in New York, where he was the Ivory Coast's permanent representative to the United Nations, presiding over the UN Security Council last year.

The Ministry of Interior and Security (the Ministry of Internal Security and the Fight Against Drugs has been eliminated) has been turned over to Emile-Constant Bombet. At the age of 49, after a brief career in the Ivorian Army (trained at the Train de Tours Officers School in France), he took the prefect route, first serving as deputy prefect and then prefect. At the time of his appointment, he was prefect of Korhogo in what is known as the Ivorian "Grand Nord," as a result of which he was closely involved in the Lancine Gon Coulibaly "affair." The latter was the former right arm of Laurent Gbagbo, who has recently returned to the PDCI [Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast] (see JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE, No. 138, p. 223).

A woman will now head the Ministry of Justice (there are now three serving on the Cabinet, compared with two previously). Jacqueline Lohoues-Oble, 40, is an eminent jurist. Holder of the *agregé* degree in private law, she taught law before being named dean of the Abidjan University Law School. It is also an absolute professional who has been named minister of agriculture and animal husbandry (here again, it is the result of the combining of two ministries that results in the disappearance of the so-called Water and Forest Resources). Konan Kouassi Lambert, 51, is a graduate of the Toulouse Advanced Institute of Agronomy who served as chief of staff of the minister of agriculture from 1970 to 1976, president of MOTORAGRI [Company for the Development and Mechanization of Agriculture], board chairman of SODESUCRE [Company for the Development of Sugar Cane Plantations and Sugar Industrialization and Marketing], and president of COFRUITEL [expansion not given]. Since 1985, he has given up any involvement in the public sector and devoted himself to farming.

The Ministry of Equipment, Transport, and Tourism replaces the Ministry of Public Works, Transport, Construction, and Town Planning, on the one hand, and Tourism, on the other (where no one will lament the departure of Jean-Claude Delafosse, who found little favor with professionals in the sector). Adama Coulibaly will take over this ministry where, at the age of 48, he was director of roads after serving as project director and central director of public works equipment. This engineer, a graduate of the ENSTP [Advanced Institute of Public Works] in Abidjan and the National School of Civil Engineering in Paris, is a veteran who has spent his entire career in the ministry. He will apparently be oriented more toward basic infrastructure (roads, ports, airports), inasmuch as Construction and Town Planning (now combined with Environment, which thus makes its appearance as a concern of the government) have been entrusted to Akele Ezan, 48, a public works engineer who

since 1981 has served as general director of the Yamoussoukro Advanced Institute of Public Works (ENSTP). As director of the school, he unfailingly preached "a new language, the language of responsibility, strictness, and self-sacrificing work," rhetoric that cannot have failed to intrigue the new prime minister!

In an unexpected move, Employment and Civil Service has been entrusted to Patrice Kouame, who had been on the list of those who could, if need be, replace Alassane Ouattara with the BCEAO. Kouame is indeed a banker, 47, with a Ph.D. in economics and a degree in advanced accounting. He served as central director of operations at the BCEAO headquarters in Paris and then Dakar before being appointed board chairman of the National Agricultural Development Bank (BNDA) in August 1984. He will therefore have a work load previously divided between two ministries: Labor and Civil Service.

Culture, now a separate ministry (last year it was under Scientific Research), will be headed by Henriette Rose Dagri-Diabate, 55, a well-known historian and professor of history at Abidjan University, first adviser to the dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. And a woman will be in charge of Women's Promotion: Hortense Aka-Anghui will be replaced by Claire-Therese-Elisabeth Grah, 51, doctor of linguistics and director of the National University Institute of Applied Linguistics from 1984 to 1986, who since that time has served as chief of staff of the minister of women's promotion. In a sense, it is a real promotion.

Surprises Among Newcomers

Posts and Telecommunications also reserves a surprise. An electrical engineer will take over the reins of this very technical sector: Kouassi Akon Yao Nicolas, 45, an electrical engineer from the University of Grenoble who since 1971 has spent his entire career with the EECL, the Ivory Coast Electric Power Company, where he was general director after serving as director of production and transport. On 1 November, he was named general secretary of the Ivorian Electric Company (CIE), recently set up by the Ivorian Government, the French (Electric) Company, and Bouygues, handling the production and distribution of electricity in the Ivory Coast.

Finally, Rene Djedjemel Diby will head up the Ministry of Youth and Sports. It is another unexpected appointment inasmuch as this 46-year-old pharmacist from Adjame was mainly known as the new president of the Ivorian Soccer Federation, to which post he acceded on 16 September.

There is one surprise, however: One might have expected a team in its 40's but the new government, like the prime

minister, is closer to its 50's! We now have experienced men and women at the helm, where they will essentially embark upon a new political experience. What role will be played by the multiparty system? It will have to wait for the government put together following the coming legislative elections in five years. This year, civil society won out over the politicians. It remains to be seen whether the "politicians" will yield their place to their astonishing successors without a fight.

In the meantime, the government has already set to work. Even before the prime minister had been installed in office, he feared the country would get bogged down in election battles. Thus he is free for a time of such deadlines. There still remains the problem of who will take over for the chief of state. While it may not be a matter of "Who?," there is still the question of "When?"

The government must also carry out a new policy taking into account the demands expressed in recent months in the streets, offices, workplace, and universities.

No longer can one turn a deaf ear to them. The political wisdom of "the Old Man," the technical know-how of Alassane Ouattara, and the good will of financial backers made it possible to avoid the worst throughout 1990.

Interim Head of BCEAO

As Alassane Ouattara, now prime minister, reiterated following the formation of his government: "The success of the stabilization program will determine our country's economic recovery. That recovery will make it possible to improve the standard of living of our fellow countrymen. Consequently, the implementation of recovery measures will be closely supervised by the head of the government."

In clear terms, this means that for the time being at least, there can be no question of yielding on any demands. Recovery is not yet on the government's program. The top priority remains stabilization, with all the limitations the notion implies. The Ivorian people must therefore be patient. It is true that the prime minister has set deadlines, knowing he does not have forever. It should nevertheless be noted that he has shrewdly managed to protect his post of BCEAO governor where, as many expected, it is his right arm and boss of the Ivorian banking agency who succeeds him as acting governor: Charles Konan Banny.

It should also be noted that it is a close member of the Ouattara team who will now become the prime minister's chief of staff: Toure Sidya, 45, in charge of rescheduling the public debt and head of coordination for the economic follow-up committee.

END OF

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